

From a letter we have
written by John Standcock
to Maj. Gen. Canby, John lived
during the period at City Hotel in
New Orleans.

unela

REPRODUCED FROM THE
HOLDINGS OF THE
TEXAS STATE ARCHIVES

November 28th 1864, 3

I have frequently regretted
not having kept a diary
since I left home last spring.
Not so much from any
special interest in the many
important events that have
transpired, or any advantage
I might realize from noting
them down as they passed,
and thereby more indelibly
fixing them on my memory,
but because I would have
thus left a record of passing
events and what had taken
place, more immediately in
connection with myself,
that at some future day my
dear wife would find pleasure
in looking over. This
thought determined me
for the future to write down,
as far as practicable, with
the close of each day, whatever

may have occurred profitable to be remembered or might be of interest to her, whom I trust God, in his mercy will protect and bless me with meeting at an early day.

Having been up till a late hour last night talking with Genl. Hamilton and Dr. Phillips, about the war, the prospects of peace and prosely speculating about the proposition to be made and the probability of its acceptance or rejection, without coming to any satisfactory conclusion I was a little late getting up this morning. A robin I saw too much given to him like to give some excuse to myself for, I rose a little before eight, but before I had finished dressing Mr. Smith knocked at my door to get me

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to accompany him to Genl. Conby's Headquarters to enquire after an application he had made to be allowed to bring a large amount of stock cattle and other property belonging to him and other Union men within the Federal lines, and sell such as might be suitable to the Government. It was not yet 9, the commencement of office hours, nor had I taken breakfast. This was soon attended to and carrying a short time in my room I proceeded with Mr. Smith to the General's Headquarters. He of course was not in being yet disabled by a gun shot wound some time since received on White River nor was his A. A. Genl. but being told he would be in a short time we sat down to await his arrival. In the course of half an hour the A. A. Genl, Genl. T. C. Christensen came

His appearance, and in a very
courteous manner informed
us that the Genl. had Mr. Smith
suspect, and regarding the sub-
ject an important one, was
looking into it himself, and
would likely refer the subject to
General Hurlbut and for Mr.
S. to call in the morning when
he might be prepared to give
him further information.
This terminated our mission
and we withdrew. Mr. Smith to
took after other business about
the City, I to my room, where I
found Mr. Coffey awaiting
me, desired to talk and
did talk about his Trans-
sore local special agent.
The politics of people about
Donelsonville where he is
doing business and the great
difficulty he has to get on
with his business, etc. I

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was well satisfied he was not the
only one who had a hard time.
Dinner at length arrived and gave
relief. At table General Hamilton
gave me in confidence a most
feasible plan he had conceived
to terminate the war, and almost as
good to make plenty of money besides.
This was to be accomplished by pur-
chasing from Genl. C. Kirby Smith
all the cotton in Transmississippi
Department for U. S. Government, and
pay for the same in money and sup-
plies, on condition that Genl. S.
would go to Mexico, whip out Max-
imilian, and establish to Monroe
doctrine. A free pardon to be extend-
ed by the President of the U. S. to
Genl. S. and all his army.
This has been our subject of
conversation this evening and
Genl. H. grows zealous as he
contemplates it, he has heard
that Mr. Alexander has received

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a letter from someone into
meeting that such an arrange-
ment would likely be accept-
able to Genl. S.

Nice being weary of this idle
speculation and wishing to
meet some naval officers who
were at Mrs. Tuttle's to ascertain
the prospects and necessary
steps to be taken to enable Miss
Gibson to return to her
home in Texas by way of
Galveston. I went to Mrs. T's &
have spent the evening there
quite pleasantly. Mr. Barr, pay
master of the Navy Frigate, there
will be no difficulty if the Confed-
erate authorities at Galveston
will first consent that Miss
Gibson & Nice may land
there to get the navy to take them
over. Nice I must see to this
in the morning and have
the request made, as the

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ladies seem anxious to get
off. Well it is now past 12.6. M.
so I will go to bed.

Thursday November 29/64

Rose this morning at 7 with
a severe pain in my left temple.
Breakfasted at 8. Soon Mr. Dun-
can Smith appeared at my room
to have me call again on Genl.
Canby with him, not deeming
I could be of any service send
him alone, returned after an
hour or two and seemed delighted
to have learned his application
had been thought favorably of
and was referred to Genl. Hurst
for further examination. In the
meantime Mr. John H. Sibert
and Saml. H. Houston had
arrived to witness a cotton
operation, after a protracted
conference entered into a con-
tract with Mr. S. as S. H. he was
deeming to use for many

ports beyond the Federal
lines, for a very large amount
of cotton to be brought in and
sold in joint account etc.
This is one of those almost in-
juring transactions bearing
a strong resemblance to gam-
bling. I have but little confi-
dence in it, but if it should be
consummated nice yield in-
crease results, even if it does
not cost but little. Had a vis-
itor Mr. J. B. England and Jun-
ner, the former just recovering
from a severe illness; he is a
very gentlemanly man, moral
and of high sense of honor.
The other I pass over for further
acquaintance. The both re-
mained to dinner. Mr. F. is
quite pleasant at dinner &
takes wine with some taste.
Over on Trip Gibson and
discuss her the character

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of letter proper for her to write to
Commander of Confederate Mil-
itary authorities, at Galveston to ob-
tain permission to leave there
from Federal blockading vessels,
then to call on her for it in the
morning.

Just returned from the meet-
ing assembled at La Haye Lygon
to celebrate re-election of Mr. Lincoln
as president and the election of
Andrew Johnson as Vice President
of the U. S. Speakers numerous
but in the main of moderate a-
bility. Genl. Hamilton by far
the superior but he made
a poor effort. The assemblage
was neither large or enthu-
siastic, and appearance to be com-
posed in great measure of the
more humble members of so-
ciety and negroes. The latter were
evidently well pleased, as much
likely, if not more, at finding

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Themselves parties to the celebra-
tion, than the events commemo-
rated. The condition of the negro
engaged a large share of attention,
and each seemed to vie with the
other in their gratification that
the shackles had been struck
from his limbs, and he was
soon to become an educated,
useful member of society.
How striking is the contrast
with four years ago. Then
to oppose slavery was not toler-
ated, and to have favored the
election of Mr. Lincoln or
any one maintaining his
sentiments to the presidency
would have been deemed a
crime. Now abolitionism
is boasted a merit and
Lincoln's election the sub-
ject of rejoicing. There is
much food for serious, gra-
ved reflection for all who

really love the South, not the least
is the low order of men, morally, so-
cially and intellectually who occu-
py places of authority and have
control. But further reflection
will be desired from now. It
is passing midnight again, and
I had intended to reform my
habits in this particular.

Wednesday, Nov. 30th, '64

Called this morning on
Miss Anne Gibson for her letter
to Military Commander of Con-
federate forces at Galveston, and
to her brother to be allowed to land
at Galveston. These letters hav-
ing to pass through Commis-
sioner Palmer with whom I am
not acquainted it became im-
portant to be suitably intro-
duced to him, so I called at
Genl. Curtis's headquarters
and obtained from Col. Chris-
tine a note of introduc-

12, introduction which he was
pleased to make very com-
plimentary. This occa-
sion the forepart of the day,
the balance of the day has
been consumed in hur-
rying a few adventures all
that they could do in the
way of procuring permits
from Confederate author-
ities to bring out cotton.
None of which I think
but little or nothing will
result. I spent the morning
pleasantly with Mr. Dickey
correspondent of the Lon-
don Times and other papers,
conversing on political
subjects, and the probable
course of Sherman and
the results that may follow
in Georgia. Also Henry
Brown and Boyer were
etc. etc.

REPRODUCED FROM THE
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TEXAS STATE ARCHIVES

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December 1st, 1864.

This, though the first day
of winter is warm as May, with light
rain this evening. Called this morn-
ing on Commodore J. S. Palmer, to
procure passage to Galveston for Miss
Anne Gibson, his sister, Mrs. Conway
and niece Miss Delia Jones. Found
him bluff though being introduced
by a note from Col. Christenine,
Genl. Canby's A. A. Genl, was well
received and treated very politely.
him, expressed his readiness to serve
me in any way ^{could} he thought ladies,
after whose politics he enquired,
had no claim on him as I could
not vouch for the loyalty of any but
Miss Jones, and as I had to tell
him I had no interest in their
going over apart from friend-
ship towards them and the chance
it would afford to communicate
with my family and send them
some little trinkets, he hardly

Thought I had sufficient interest to entitle the ladies to be carried over on black sailing vessel, but finally consented to send over letters for Miss G. one being to the Military Commissioner of Confederate forces, at Galveston, to obtain permission to land them, which if obtained the Commodore since we would then see about sending them over. Nothing of any special interest transpired to-day, and no news of importance from any quarter. A good deal of speculation about Sherman, some think he will march on Montgomery, Alabama, some that he will go to Savannah Georgia, some he will be successful and others confident he will be surrounded and his army destroyed. With most of this opinion I think the Irish is shared to the thought. It is my opinion he will

more through to Savannah, without serious difficulty. If he does not I shall feel he is not as efficient a general as I have regarded him. I see no reason to apprehend a failure if he moves with tolerable celerity. This campaign being successfully made, must be most damaging to the Rebellion, will divide again the Confederacy, and greatly diminish the chances of keeping up large armies. It is rumored, this evening that a considerable fleet has arrived in Mobile Bay. This would seem to indicate a march on Mobile. I can hardly think this will be done just now, unless for a diversion. In that point of view it might be advisable. It would relieve Timessee from Hood's threatened invasion. But it would seem that Genl. Thomas is abundantly able to resist Hood and any force he may be able to move with.

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 Friday, December 2nd, 1864,
 The weather still con-
 tinues warm and pleasant. This
 has been an uneventful day,
 though Andrew Horne arrived
 this morning from Matamoros,
 bringing general intelligence from
 home as late as 2nd ult. that noth-
 ing unusual had occurred. It
 is gratifying to hear this much, and
 how thankful I shall be if noth-
 ing unusual occurs before
 I return. Received a letter from
 Mr. White, gratified to hear
 from him and learn there
 is some prospect of his get-
 ting something from the cotton
 we were so imprudent as to send
 out in the name of W. Kerner.
 Rumor that Sherman has burnt
 Macon and Millerville Ga.
 I went to St. Charles Theater with
 Miss L. and Jones, play to leave
 only, but due & dreary to night.

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 Saturday, December 3rd, 1864
 This morning Mr. Duncan Smith
 called to tell me his application,
 in which I have been trying to assist
 him, to obtain some assistance
 from the Military authorities to
 bring his own and other refugees
 stock & other property from the Wes-
 tern coast of this state, within the
 Federal lines, has failed; The mil-
 itary commissary stating among
 other reasons that they were getting
 a plentiful supply of beef from the
 Western States for the soldiers, that
 these stock men of small size and
 inferior race that other objects
 of more importance demanded
 the services of the troops required
 to give the necessary protection to
 bring in this stock, that one specu-
 lator in that direction had failed
 &c. Not a thought seems to have been
 given to the condition of the un-
 fortunate Refugees, who, because

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They remain true to the Federal Government, have been driven from their homes of comfort and some of affluence, in state of great destitution and some with difficulty procure the bare necessities of life, and think themselves fortunate to obtain employment chopping wood in mud and water at rates barely sufficient to procure them the cheapest foreign clothing for their bodies. Men who have suffered imprisonment forced to lie for weeks concealed in the marshes to escape Rebel oppression, and daily suffer unutterable mental suffering from the terrible condition of their families held as prisoners by the Rebels, without sufficient food or clothing and subject to all the abuse and outrage of brutal soldiers, who on parade use that to tyrannise over mist

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is meritorious. I listened to this old man tell his sufferings, and sacrifice, and the destitute and helpless condition he had been brought in his old age, till I almost felt death would be a blessing to all the helpless. Surely the Government ought, when practicable, to extend assistance to such of its citizens. To withhold it on the ground that their property is not needed, or can be gotten on without is not the treatment they deserve. The manifestation of such indifference by those in authority may well chill the heart and give us pause. For who of the South do they care? Ah secession bitter are thy fruits, and we have but just commenced to pluck from that pestilent tree. The weather has grown cool with rain. No news of importance. Sherman seems moving on with but little opposition thus far

20 Sunday, Decr, 24th, 1864.
This day has been
I regret to say been unprofitable.
Spent at an early hour. Ref-
uses appearance about the ho-
tel, and several come into my
room, and seem to feel a sad
sort of pleasure in talking over
their trials, hardships and
wrongs. Some of these trials are
really heart rending. Poor crea-
tures, prompted by the noblest
sentiments of patriotism,
they have yielded all their
estates to the cause of their
country and now when they
are forced to beg for any kind
of labor that will bring them
bread from day to day, but
little consideration is shown
them by the authorities repre-
senting that government they
have clung to with such un-
flinching fidelity. Some murmur

at the want of consideration by
the officers, but no censure is heard
against the Government and each
seems sustained by the belief that
the preservation of that Government
will repay posterity, if they may not
survive the contest for every sacra-
fice. These visits occupy me all the
forenoon, so that I did not attend
church as I intended. This evening
I called to see my sick friend Mr.
E., found him much improved,
talking about me in good spirits.
Returned to my room, read Harper's
Magazine, newspapers & till now
bed time. Well what has to-morrow
morning in store? Many anx-
ious minds ask the same question
as he retires to night; for some-
thing definite is expected on the
subject of the cotton trade. I do not
think it will be opened. I do not
see how such a trade can be carried
on with the war being waged as it is.

Q. Monday, December 5.
Tide this morning after
mail was distributed it was
found that no definite in-
formation had been received
about the trade in cotton, but
several letters ascertaining
most confidently that the
trade would be opened and
that another week would bring
the necessary orders to that
effect. But I still doubt, and
think I will see the thing is
done practically. It would
be singular now first at the
meeting of Congress after so long
delaying action if the Presi-
dent should determine to is-
sue such orders, are neces-
sary to carry on such a trade.
Met with several members of
the State Legislature under the
new Government. I have not
been about the body, but

being invited I think I will do
so shortly. It occurs to me there is
not much talent in any branch of
the new Government. Best return
we from the St. Charles Theater, saw
Hamlet by Mr. Caddy. He seemed to
have a fair conception of the char-
acter, but his voice is deficient in
force and compass for so heavy
tragedy, though made the play quite
bearable.

Tuesday, December 6th,
Commenced by
writing a long letter to Genl. Hurl,
but on behalf of some Refugees, in
the name of Mr. D. S., representing
the helplessness and destitute condi-
tion they are in. The orders of the
Rebel Genl. Beauregard forbidding
any one to succor them with
shelter, food or clothing are pro-
hibiting them from coming
within the Union lines as if
the profane were to guarantee their

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certain death by the slow
torture of starving and exposure
unto the inclemency of the
bitter winter. What mon-
strous cruelty towards helpless
women and children for no
other offense than their hus-
bands and fathers have ad-
vanced to the United States as
the government of their choice,
in preference to that prom-
ised through the agency of se-
cession. Comment would
bring up some things too pain-
ful to contemplate. Then on my
ever pipe and cheer, May God
watch over and protect them.
Then we conversed with
Col. C. A. W. on subject trade,
seems confident it is to be
opened at an early day, was in
fine spirits. Wrote to Judge
P. on same subject and request-
ed an answer as to amount

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contracted for by him and Mr. O.
how situated &c.

Just returned from Vanities
Theater, San Antonio III. by Daily,
presenter it better than I ex-
pective, though I suppose greatly
beneath the excellence attained
by famous actors. It is, so far as I
have heard, his first attempt, and
I think he gives promise of mak-
ing some character in it if repeated.

Tuesday, Dec. 7.

Today the Special
agent appointed to purchase cotton
on Government account announ-
ced to a few favorites that he was now
authorized to issue permits to
bring cotton through the Feder-
al lines. The result has been very
great activity among the favorites
to make contracts with and send
their agents to procure cotton.
This has been sufficient to
take up all the time this day.

26 *Thursday, December 8,*
The same business of
conduct in the same way has
been kept up all day. It is a
little remarkable that though
those in the confidence of the
Agent, with their agents' consent
to write a number, the secret has
been kept for two days. A com-
mon desire to make the most of
the advantage seems to restrain
the tongues of all. And yet I
shall be disappointed if these
operations are not to a great
extent. The military have not
spoken, and I doubt not the
silence will be broken at an
early day, by the publication
of a series of regulations on
the subject of travel that will
be most difficult, if not im-
possible in many instances,
to comply with. To-morrow will
be apt to give some light on this point.

27 *Friday, December, 9th.*
This morning, about 10.
Mr. D. S. entered my room in a most bur-
riva manner, exclaiming in an almost
frantic voice his family had come. His
joy seemed almost to overcome him,
so much that I did not really under-
stand him but as he rushed up hand-
ed me a telegram announcing the
fact to him. I have never witnessed
more overpowering manifestations of
joy than this news seemed to give him.
He seemed for a time quite unable to
express his feeling, and it was really
touching to see the tears of joy, trickle
down his old, weather-beaten face.
From my heart I rejoiced with
him, and wished I could meet my
dear family. The accounts I have do
not place mine in the helpless and
destitute condition he supposes
his to be yet I do not know what may
befall them before I rejoin them. It
may be worse even than this position.

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main for it seems they have not
been so much treated as represented,
though subjected to very great hard-
ship and suffering from sick-
ness and exposure incident to their
condition, but they say the Rebel
soldiers in the main have been
respectful to them. I am glad to
hear this reputation of the revolting
accounts given by the deserters, Nor-
wood. How few of these deserters are to
be trusted! They nearly all seem to
think that by reporting some tale of
horror and great barbarity on the
part of the Rebels, they will obtain for
themselves special consideration
may be favored with a paying place.

H.C. P. Co. concluded a con-
tract for 20,000 bales of cotton to be
delivered at a certain place, & all
this on the part of the other party, I
think, he will have to obtain the con-
sent of the local authorities, a thing
very doubtful, he shall see.

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Saturday, December 10th,

What a dreary cheerless
day this has been! I have been out
of the hotel but once, that late this eve-
ning, have felt badly all day, not to
say sick, but a heavy, aking feeling
in my limbs and head, some fever
with slight pain in the bowels. Have
taken a good long walk and a fine bet-
ter. Call a few minutes in the lady's
parlor with Mr. D. and Mrs. Campbell.
I learn her husband is not in the Feder-
al army of Gen. Lowrey. Right, I believe,
she seems a refined, cultivated lady,
said to have fine musical talent, talks
pleasantly, but seems somewhat pen-
sive, pleasant but not a handsome
face, she has been brought up in this
city, though I do not know her
maiden name. Think she, at this
time has no relatives here. Why has
she come here? Probably, influenced
by that strong attachment to her son
to have him reside long in this city.

31 Sunday, December 11th.
I should say Capt. Loring
who was a prisoner of Texas troops
last June at Callisium river where
he was in command of the tin-
clad gunboat Hove. Which with
the crew and another gunboat
were crew were also captured.
The prisoners were all taken to
Texas, have been retained there
since Capt. L. says he effected
his escape 13th Sept. from the
place with one other man, a
Lieutenant from Indiana and
reached this place on the 10th inst.
They traveled most of the way in
the night, concealing themselves
by day, except when from
any camp of meeting to an-
other troops, they were both
dressed in old grey clothing, and
represented themselves as rebel
soldiers returning to their
homes in Louisiana to procure

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Horse to remount themselves and
join them. Rept. ordered to Arkansas.
They stop at but few houses, subsist-
ing principally on parched corn, which
not interrupted but were several times
in imminent danger. They traveled the
entire distance, near 400 miles on
foot and seemed suffering very
much from sore feet. Their clothes
were much worn, quite in rags,
and altogether presented a bare
and unpleasant appearance. Represent the
prisoners as tolerably well, some
for the most part, those who are some-
fortunate, to be sick for lack of
frequent for want of medicines
of which the Rebels have a poor sup-
ply, and sometimes difficult to ob-
tain the services of a physician
besides more of the delicate
nourishment. The sick need
are to be had. I understand
this is the third time this in-
defatigable Bostonian made.

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his escape, being twice recapt-
ured, and punished by close con-
finement for the attempts, but
no way discouraged by his failures,
he continues his exertions
till success reward his ef-
forts, and now seems anxious
to enter at once on his duty as
Capt of the Monitor, Dictator. He is
a small man, I should think
not above five feet seven inches, a
symmetrical, well set, light, sinewy
and tough looking complexion
eyes and hair dark, the latter a
little streaked with grey, being I
should think forty two or three years
old. He is regarded as an efficient and
brave officer. ~~His brother~~ ^{His brother} ~~is~~ ^{was} ~~with~~ ^{with} ~~him~~ ^{him}
Genl. Cameron was with him
and both having their umbre-
llas taken to send their home
friends the Capt. and Lieut. had
them taken in their traveling at-
tire, I saw but little of Genl. C.

Monday, Decr, 12th, 67
The news from Genl. Thom-
pson's day is very favorable, It is
pretty certain he will enter Savannah
without serious loss to his army,
Being in this favorable position to se-
cure the cooperation of the Navy,
with his army joining by any
heavy battle, any mention at will
from the negroes in the country,
who can be made ⁿimmensely service-
able to him for labourers, &c, &c, if
unfit for the fighting part of a
soldier's duty, all combine to
give him a most advantageous
position to move on to Charleston
If not in that direction he may
turn back on Georgia and
do great damage by burning
cities, towns and property, gener-
ally destroying railroads, and
liberating negroes. All of this
I regard this more for more
encouraging to the Rebels, than

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any thing that has occurred
since the fall of Vicksburg.
and must if judicious use
be made of the advantage
thus obtained, soon result
in placing it beyond the power
of the Rebels to keep a large ar-
my together for any great length
of time. The fight at Franklin,
Tenn. certainly resulted to the
prejudice of Hove, and it
would seem if Thomas has
the reinforcements represented
that it will be most hazard-
ous for him to risk a battle
before he is well supplied with
the most fight or leave, he
can not stay where he
is for more than a few days
and then to fight and be
defeated will make it
most difficult for him to
get out of Tenn. if Thomas is
prepared to follow him.

Wednesday, December 13.
The events of to-day are so
like those of yesterday that I
have little inclination to en-
ter them, or make any com-
ments about them. There is not
ing written from Sherman,
which is deemed favorable
indication, since the Rebels
would likely know if any dis-
aster had befallen him, &
certainly would not with-
hold it. Some think Hove
will flank Nashville and
try to get into Kentucky. He may
make the attempt, but I don't
think he will succeed. It seems
to me that Thomas ought to
be able to inflict serious in-
jury on him should he
thus expose himself. The
effort will disclose great
weakness, and a future
military history.

Thursday, Dec. 18th.

To-day I have not done much else than look to the newly arrived refugee families of every kind and every body in Texas. From them I learn of many changes of persons and things, generally, I think, for the better. They tell me all prior war-marshals, except at places under military occupation, were done away with. This is gratifying news and shows to my mind a spirit of moderation and disposition to respect the rights of the citizen more than has been done for a great while. This is an office peculiar to an American, and never fails to cause discontent when exercised over the citizen. It is a legitimate offshoot of arbitrary power, nearly always abusive, because the jurisdiction

jurisdiction exercised is not limited by any fixed or established rules, but is left in many instances to the discretion of the officer, and like all such power liable to be abused by the vicious or ignorant.

Friday, December 16th,

To-day has been a busy day. I have written a long letter to Mr. White and one to Thos. H. McRimney. The former on business mainly, the other in reply to one from him. I designed it should be conciliatory, for I felt so towards him. He has befriended me when I needed it. It may not have been altogether disinterested, but it was both grateful and beneficial to me. But I did not omit to remind him of his injustice finally. Policy would have concealed this but candor demanded

27 Wednesday, Decr, 14th, 1864
To Mr. Genl. Hamilton,
George Peck; and Col. Starnes;
families arrived from Texas
via Galveston, crossing the
Gulf of Government's
ports, having left Austin, as
late as 4th inst. I received
no letter by them, in this
I was sadly disappointed,
but it was most gratifying
to hear so kind and warm
ly from my family and learn
they were well, except Edwin
stated to have been suffer-
ing from some affection
of his throat, but pronounced
by the Doctor to be nothing
serious, and great it may
turn out. These letters
all seem in the present-
ing the public mind as
much more tolerant than
at any time since the war

begin towards Unionists
and much less disposition
to oppression and lawless violence,
they speak of some who but recent-
ly were most ultra secessionists
as disposed to take about re-
construction of the Union,
and that every body is tired of
the war, and desirous of peace. How
freshly and pleasantly too does
the arrival of these families
bring to view the conviction of
my own mind before the most
intense desire to have them
with me, but this I can not
do, and I am forced to sub-
mit to my banishment, I am
sustained by the hope that a
few more weary months
will bring us together, un-
der such circumstances
as will enable me to remain
in safety with my dear
wife and child. God grant it.

utterance. I have seen two or three men who represent that they have control of cotton and desire the cooperation of some one here to get it to market. I have made and think I will not make any contract with them. I have little confidence that I could do any good in this business. I have not money sufficient myself. Besides there are so many unscrupulous men ready to engage in this business, and such an amount of machinery thrown around it that I am disposed to think villainy will reap the greater portion of the harvest. I have never made anything that way, and am determined not to try it. Poverty is better than loss of self respect.

Saturday, Decr. 17th, 1864

To-day has passed most unprofitably away. Talked a good deal with several persons, got no news from the war. And the time seems to have glided away without leaving a trace behind.

Sunday, Decr. 18th,

Drease this morning for church. Lewis Tyson called as I was about starting, his eyes were red, and looked as if he had been weeping. Think he has, since his mother desired I would come up and see her. That an officer had been to their house to sign it for military purposes and that his parents were much distressed and knew not what to do. Well I went up and have spent the day there since with the Doctor and

heard from him a free state-
 ment of his course of conduct
 since the war. The petty personal dif-
 ferences he has had, mostly politi-
 cal, some professional, and re-
 sulting in exciting a feeling
 of resentment towards him
 by such men as would take
 advantage of the disposition
 of many of the military to
 oppress all of doubtful loy-
 alty, especially where there is a
 prospect of plunder. It is quite
 certain that these personal en-
 mies, being intolerant, bigoted &
 will dispose have instigated
 the proceeding against him,
 and they find ready abettors
 in the officers, applied to since
 he has a desirable residence
 will furnish, well to-mor-
 row I will try to see Genl.
 Herbut and bring the mat-
 ter before him.

Monday, Decr, 19, 1864
 Commenced this morn-
 ing by writing a letter to Genl. Hurl-
 but stating pretty fully, & lay out our case
 the proceeding against his property, his
 course of conduct since the war
 begun, his professional character.
 Being frequently interrupted the
 morning was pretty well passed be-
 fore I got away from my room.
 Went first to Provost Marshal's of-
 fice, he pretended to know nothing
 about the proceeding, had no re-
 collection of signing any order for
 the seizure, might have done so, as
 it was impossible for him to read
 the papers he signed. He may have
 told the truth, think he did, said
 he would take no further ac-
 tion till to-morrow and would
 see me at his residence at 8 in
 the morning. Not being satisfied
 with this I went to Genl. H's head-
 quarters, met there Mrs. Richardson

On the same evening as myself
and most intensely interested.
The Genl. being absent she, Maj.
Dana and myself entered into
conversation for a half hour or
more. I made her a very nice
informant of strong, nervous
will, of a lively, lofty imagination
and great energy and
of course a great talker. When
the Genl. returned I stated to
the Maj. my wish to see him
concerning my business, and was
told the subject had been
brought to the Genl.'s notice
and that he had already act-
ed on it and made the state-
ment in such a way that I
felt confident it was as I de-
sired and having no other
business with him my request
for an interview. And Mrs.
R. having another mission
of humanity on hand for

Some one imprisoned, who she
understood was to be tried before
a military commission of which
Genl. Roberts was president and as I
happened to be acquainted with
him and she now was a part in
to her service to extent of going to his
quarters and introducing her. This
of course I did, and listened
with considerable interest to
her conversation, approaching
as she did in very diplomatic
style the object of her visit. Some
of her approaches were really im-
pious, and her presentation of the
facts showing the domestic con-
dition of the prisoner and de-
serving sympathy of the humane
was well, almost eloquently
done. From this I returned to
my hotel and took a dinner in
good spirits. In the evening
I went to Dr. Ayson's and re-
ported the result of my efforts.

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And giving it as my confident belief that the proceeding had been arrested by the Genl, and that there would be no further trouble. In this belief I returned to my room, feeling gratified that a good man & his family were happy in being allowed to say at home in peace, and enjoy together their home and property. But while I write this down, I feel most keenly my true separation as I am, for an indefinite time from my loved wife and child and pleasant home, and what their condition may be this night I know not. Oh Good shield and protect them from all harm and let me join them again and live in peace and quiet with them. I pray, Amen.

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Tuesday, Decr 20th, 1864
Call at 1/2 past eight this morning on Col. Roberson, Provost Marshal, merely to keep my appointment and improve my acquaintance with him. Information of the advance that had been made in the seizure of Dr. Ayson's property, & that being before the Genl, it was before his control; but proceeded to state some of the reasons why I thought it ought not to be done. He was an empty headed, self-inflated, supercilious creature, static, with quite an air ~~him~~, on being informed that Dr. A. had not taken the oath required by Genl. Butler, that he had no sympathy for such and he could do nothing for me. I replied I was aware of that fact, before calling & had merely come to keep my appointment. And would have to look to others higher

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in authority. I do not think he
knew this remark. It may be my
manner was not pleasant, or the
allusion to any one being higher
in authority than he may have
been unpleasant to him.

Returned to my room and
was engaged with Dr. P. reform-
ing some articles of agreement
when Lewis Lyson appeared
and in a hurried manner
stated his mother desired I
would come up there at once
that an officer was there
with an order from Genl
H. to take the house. This was
most unexpected disagree-
able and I went home with
a message I would be up
soon. On my business
on hand and went up
to find Dr. P. in great
distress and perplexity. The
Dr. absent visiting his patients

(41)

and a guard already stationed
at the door to see that nothing was
taken from the house. Looked at
the order of seizure found it sign-
ed by Capt. Constable, A. L. M. as by
order of Genl. H. to be for military
purposes and that it must be va-
cated within three days. I offered
what of consolation I could &
endeavored to encourage her
to meet the trial with fortitude
and resignation. Soon the Dr.
came in and received the in-
telligence with great coolness
indeed, but from his conver-
sation evidently felt the blow
severely. He seemed already to
have determined on the course
he would take and requested
after a few minutes conver-
sation I would try and get a pas-
port for himself and family for
Texas to go by next transport &
to learn what of his personal effects

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 He would be allowed to move.
 On this mission, and to get the
 time fixed for him to vacate his
 home extended, so as to enable him
 to provide a place to take his family to,
 I left. On my way I was accosted
 by J. A. C. Rogers Esq. whom I was
 about passing without observing.
 He greeted me cordially, and asked
 why I had not been to see him.
 After such apologies as I could
 offer, I explained to him my
 business, and he being a
 acquaintance with Genl. H., re-
 quested he would accom-
 pany me, which he readily
 consented to do. Without
 much delay, we obtained ad-
 mission to the Genl's presence
 and made known the object
 of our visit. He expressed aston-
 ishment, and showed a note
 from Capt. Constable represent-
 ing the seizure to be other property

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 This seemed to have been written in
 response to an inquiry. As conclusion
 that the seizure had been made I hand-
 ed him the order, on which with great
 promptness he wrote an order to
 suspend further proceedings, and
 to report the cause of the seizure to him.
 This I regarded a most fortunate
 turn in the business, in fact Mr. R.
 and myself understood it as intend-
 ed to mean that the Dr's property would
 not be taken from him, and I hasten-
 ed to bear the good news to him and
 his distressed family. I found him
 in his library, sitting down and
 slipping on with a book in his hand
 as if he had been reading. Mrs. A.
 came in immediately and I com-
 municated the result to her un-
 utterable joy and the Dr's great
 gratification. They both expressed
 their thanks to me for the service
 I had rendered, and I left feeling
 happy in the conviction I had

rendered a service to those truly
worthy of it. I returned to the Ho-
tel in time to find Dr. P. at din-
ner. He had been out till later
than usual in conference with
Messrs. W. H. on business and to fix
the terms of co-operation with them
in getting in cotton. He was evidently
in bad humor and had been
disappointed in his expectations.
For when his friend, in whom
he had so much confidence had
refused when brought to the test
to sign the contract I have sus-
pected as much and caused him
to take the step that he might be
enabled to know just what to
depend on. This is but another
instance showing the impor-
tance of having all matters
of business definitely under-
stood at the beginning and put
in binding form.

Wednesday, Dec. 11, 1861

I was aroused from my last
couch this morning by the rap at
my room door of Lewis Tyson,
to inform me that the guard was
still in possession of their house
and that his mother requested I
would come up then. I sent him
back with a message to his moth-
er that I would be up soon.
After breakfast I went to Quar-
termaster's office and asked
why the guard was not taken
away. Asst. Capt. C. gruffly
indisposed to talk much, said
it was not intended by Genl H's
order that they should be relieved.
I replied I understood the Genl's
order differently and would
go and see him. Did so, found
I understood him correctly &
he said the Capt. was so too. He
gave me an order to the Capt
to relieve the guard at once.

This Order I received in person, when the Capt. became very polite and full of explanation of former practices, but ordered the same relieved. In a short time I went to the Dr's and found the same just leaving, to the no little gratification of the Dr & family, especially Mrs. Ayson. The Dr. requested I would go with him to-morrow to see Genl. H. that he might renew his acquaintance with and thank ^{him} for permitting him to retain his own property. How strange such a proceeding seems in this country where so long private property have perfect protection under the law, and it is as safe as strong. But I will not stop here to comment on the change or the causes that led to it. Nothing of note occurred during the remainder of the day.

Thursday, Decr. 22nd, 1864

The forepart of to-day I have busied myself looking into contemplated operations, and to procuring an interview for Dr. P. with some capitalists, with who he desires to make money arrangements, to carry on his cotton contracts, i.e. should any cotton ever come, of which I still continue to doubt. At half past two P.M. called with Dr. H. on Genl. H. and introduced him. The Genl. exhibited some emotion, more far than I expected. They talked for some time of bay-hove days. The members of their respective families and early acquaintances. The living and the dead. The Dr. thanked in a very dignified but cordial manner the Genl. for the release of his property. The Genl. replied of course he was under no obligation he had put down his justice that would

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decision. He then alluded to a statement made by the Dr. which he said he had seen hurriedly spoke freely and unreservedly of the Dr. position, told he was wrong, did not controvert the correctness of his view of the Constitution of the U.S. but said that was not the question now, the Constitution contained no such state of things as we found existing. That since the laws have no existence here as rules of action, the authority was all military and whatever civil power was exercised was merely permitted by the military, he had the power to stop that should he deem it expedient to do so, to have a man taken and stop, and yet there was no provision for the exercise of such authority in the Constitution &c. But that these powers were exercised from the necessity of the condition we were in.

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Friday, Decr, 23rd, 1864

Have taken up the day with air castles, mostly constructed of cotton. Had a long conversation with Mr. C. on the subject. He thinks much may be done. It is possible, and I doubt not will be by certain parties, such as persons in favor of the military authorities, that may have control, this can not be done without paying for it. This is bribery, and no plea of necessity to try mine, ~~relieved~~ it from the temptation that a correct morality must ever attach to that crime. I will have nothing to do with it. An honest penny is worth more than a dishonest penny.

Yesterday Dr. Paton one of his cotton buyers, as he thought up the river, but this evening he ^{called} ~~more in~~ to say he was arrested on the boat, just before starting by some of the military detectives, and imprisoned last night.

49 Saturday, Decr. 24. 1864.
 Nothing of special interest
 has occurred to day, except
 further developments con-
 nected with the arrest of Mr.
 W. Dr. P. man he started to
 purchase cotton. It is pretty
 clear it was done, if not at
 the instance, it was by the pro-
 curement of Mr. C. H. W. The
 man Dr. P. was, or thought he
 was acting with in the busi-
 ness and who was to furnish
 what money might be needed
 and have a part of the profits.
 But the supposition is, some
 pretty well sustained by the
 facts too, that W. and some
 one else have made another
 agreement for cotton to be
 purchased in the same sec-
 tion of country which would
 be more profitable than the
 contract made by the Dr. as

Mr. W. under his contract would
 have all the profits, instead of
 half, and to keep the Dr. man
 out of the way, Mr. W. had him
 arrested and imprisoned. A
 more unrelieved instance of
 perfidy is not often met with,
 besides being the most macabre
 table folly and short sightedness.
 It seems this man, W. has been
 guilty of a good many irregulari-
 ties in trading many of which
 are known to the Dr. and as this
 matter will have to be investi-
 gated it is likely much may be
 brought to light prejudicial to
 Mr. W. and may prove very in-
 jurious to his business prospects.
 Another among many instances
 I have known when bad faith seem-
 ed to bring quick retribution on
 the culprit. A moment's reflection
 ought to have shown Mr. W. he was
 playing a dangerous and a wicked part.

Monday Decr 25. /64

Christmas day! how many
fancies but scarce memories, come
up with this day. All along, like
the present, it has been a day of
greater or less joy and gladness.
It is now one of heavy, painful
gloom. The image of ^{my} dear son
is constantly before me, with all
his hearty joy over the little pres-
ents he has been wont to expect
and receive on this day. And
there too stands his poor, poor
mother, her gentle eyes beaming
full with love and delight over
the happiness of her child. While
mirth and gladness gave to life a
new zest for all, as we gathered a-
round the gleaming board, with friends
and relatives, in festive com-
memoration of this natal day
of him whose mission was
peace and good will to man.
But I am not allowed to observe

This Christian holiday, with
that little family, around one
humble hearth; and without them
what is life to me, or the joy this world
can bring. They are useless, naught in
comparison. I know not their con-
dition, if it may be for worse than
my own, but I trust not. If I could
but know they were well and un-
disturbed by the poor, wicked
followers of those who have brought
so much misery and ruin on
the country, I could feel com-
paratively reconciled to my pres-
ent fate, in the hope that I will
meet them again ere many
months have passed away. God
grant me this boon. Dr. P. and
I dined today with Dr. H. & family.
Dinner on Trip 4, and one or two
others, passed but a short time with
either, and returned to my room
where I have spent most of
the evening.

53
Monroe, Decr, 26, - 1864

This has been another
irksome day, no business is
doing, and the past times of
others give me no pleasure, I
shall be glad when the holidays
are over. Have been trying to
read Spencer's "American
Union", an English view of the
causes which led to secession.
It is far more liberal and in-
telligent, than any work on
American affairs, by any Eng-
lishman. It is decidedly South-
ern, quite disposed to apologize
for the institution of slavery, and
really shows very accurate
conception of the institution.
seriously rebukes the intermeddling
of the North, attributes that and
all else back to the democratic
feeling of the American
Government. Exhibits much
thought and most acute

understanding on this sub-
ject, professing, as most English-
men do, the ultimate failure
of our system of government
from this cause. I can not see
any thing is great merit in the ob-
jections taken and believe, if the
tendency to leveling everything to the
ground, is not arrested that most
disastrous results may follow.
But I hope much improvement
when the war shall have ended and
civil jurisdiction reestablished.

Tuesday Decr 27th, 1864

The news from the armies
of Tennessee, and from Georgia
is highly satisfactory. It is certain
that Thomas has defeated Hood
before Nashville with great loss
to the latter of both men and arms.
It would seem Hood's loss must
be near twelve thousand men, if so,
it is not likely he will be able to

assume the offensive again this winter. Sherman has now effected a connection with the Union and naval forces on the Atlantic, and though he has not yet, so far as we know, taken Savannah he has invested it, and it will not be long delayed. This good news has several additions of like character from Eastern & N. Carolina. But to my mind, the most inspiring feature is the call for three hundred thousand more men. With this additional force in the field I do not think the war would last many months, not many weeks, that is, not in its present form; but when law and order and quiet are to be restored, I know not, fear not for many long, weary days after this occurs.

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Thursday, Decr. 27, 1864

Nothing of note has transpired to day. Much of the time has been spent in discussing the results of recent Federal victories, talking about trade regulations and the chances of doing any thing in the cotton business. I have heard so much of this air castle building that I have grown weary of it, and sometimes wish I could not hear it named again. I have never had any confidence that it could be relied on, that is, as an honest, legitimate business, and, therefore not for me to bother with.

Wednesday, Decr. 28.

I have always had a partiality for uniformity in most things, but the life of a loafer, or a Texas Refugee without business, which is about the same thing, has a uniformity that is becoming not only tiresome but disgusting.

Thursday, Dec. 29.

Tell my old friend Duncan Smith propose to me to-day if I would furnish money to purchase the tools and some small amount to meet the expenses of getting to work. That he would hire some hands, procure the timber superintend the business or have it done, and go to making shingles on an extensive scale. The amount he thinks will not exceed three hundred dollars, and that he and I will share the profits equally. Well this looks like a small business, but if the shingles can be made, as cheaply as he thinks, & there is ready market for them at the selling prices, it will pay something enough to cover my expenses; and that is an important consideration; for despite all the economy I exercise

I am constantly spending money, not for anything I see or get for myself, but there is a constant drain on me by the Texans here in destitution. It is hard to refuse those who have no means or employment, and yet I shall be in that condition in a short time, at present rates of wages, as it is positively called. Besides Smith is a Refugee, destitute and has a large and helpless family, very energetic and I think honest, and a little aid to him now may be of great service to him. From these considerations I conclude to go in with him and furnish the money, have let him have one hundred dollars to day to go and look out a place and get timber. If the business proves as profitable as it at present promises it is understood that I will get a schooner and ship to Matamoros, shingles, boards, wagon timber &c. If it fail I lose my money, of course.

Friday Decr. 30.

Called to day on Mr. E. found him in low spirits and still feeble health. He begins to think pretty nearly as I do about the practicality of doing any good getting cotton through the line. Had a good long talk with Mr. G. a man who has traveled a great deal in this country and over much of Europe, a shrewd, active observing thinker, a bold, enterprising trader, far more liberal in his views and of more enlarged feelings than is usually met with from any section. Has been over most of the Pacific Coast, spent several years in California and for the last few years has been concerned in working a silver mine in Chihuahua which has paid well and he thinks will be of great value, But, as he is growing

old, has already a large fortune, and but one child, a son grown, is disposed to see out his interest. He speaks very favorably of the upper and central parts of the State of Sonora for growing cotton, because the climate is favorable, except the drought, but thinks irrigation for large amounts of land very practicable from three rivers that pass through this great plain, and the Indians he says work well and can be procured at \$8 per month. There is no frost and the cotton plant does very well for three years, when it becomes too nearly a tree, and ceases to bear many bolls.

Saturday, Decr 31st.

This day has been too much like many others to merit notice, so far as I am concerned. Though the people throng the streets, and many seem to contemplate a joyous to day on to morrow.

Ch.

Sunday, January 1865

This day twelve months ago I was in the town of Bastrop, Texas, the weather was intensely cold, so I did not start for home till about eleven o'clock. but then I could go home, and for the gratification of being then faced the chilling winds, how gladly would I encounter the storms and tempests of heaven now to rejoin my poor wife and child. But the war of men is worse than all the combined fury of the elements, and I ~~must~~ ^{am} here, almost as inactive as a fossil, and suffer the keenest sensibilities of a man, helpless and separated from all that is dear to him in this life, and for how long. I only know, It were better not to brood over this trouble, but how can human nature do otherwise. He who can be separated

for an indefinite time from home, country and friends, and be able to partake in spirit of the festivities of these holidays is more or less than man. Some of my neighbors herein in situation similar to my own would not like to see this. Dr. P. succeeded in getting Mr. H., the man who undertakes to procure and deliver 20,000 bales of cotton, started to day. If he gets through without further detention he may be home from in a month or six weeks, if he is home from, at all, with any cotton to deliver. I shall be disappointed. I call this evening a few friends, or rather acquaintances, and among them Mrs. G. from New York, who has been quite kindly disposed towards me. She is a very intelligent lady, and give me some interesting items as to the customs of the old citizens of her

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Still in the observance of this day
Among others the custom, still
observed, by a few, of carrying their
New Year cake with them when they
call on their friends, and eating
that rather than their friends' cake.
This cake is called by them "cooker
cake", is ordinary sweet cake of
flour, only peculiar in form,
being, in square bars, five or six
inches long, an inch and a half
or two inches in diameter.

Monday, May, 1st.

The forepart of the day I
called on J. A. Rozier Esq.
found him very courteous and
civil, spent some time with
him, talked some of our govern-
ment, mostly of politics and the
condition of the country. He
has a clear conception of the
situation we are in and depre-
cates it deeply, disapproves the
plan being pursued. Thinks a

a more conciliatory course
would be for better, towards all dis-
posed to return to the Union, but not
to relaxing in the prosecution of the
war. Borrowed a book of him, which
he loaned very cheerfully, as also tendered
me the use of his library and office,
and urged I would call on his fam-
ily. Commenced studying the form
of a bill to present to the Legislature
to get a company organized to con-
struct a dam from Vermillion
Bay to Sabine river. This evening
called on Capt. Hook of the Navy
and his family, having been invited
then, this being their evening to re-
ceive their friends for New Year.
The refreshments were abundant
and good, and served in plates
placed to the guests in their seats
about the parlor. Spent the eve-
ning as pleasantly as I expected,
may be more so, but what ^{are} my
wishes and our son doing to night?

65
Tuesday, June 3rd, 1865.

To-day Mr. D. S. re-
turns from his search for timber,
has procured a good supply near
the Apollousa R. R. at reasonable
rates, and timber can be obtained
to a sufficient number at cheaper
rates than he expected, and al-
together is in good spirits. I have
spent most of the day working
on the Bill to incorporate the
Louisiana & Texas Canal Compa-
ny." will complete it to-morrow.

Wednesday June 4th.

Completed my Bill
for a Canal, submitted to Mr.
G. M. B., he is much pleased
with it, and thinks the enterprise
a good one, will pay well if it
can be passed by the Legislature,
and is anxious to go into it, as
a party, but it is probably better
he should, he is a correct man,
very reliable & has influence.

Thursday, June 5th, 1865

This morning having Mr.
D. S. 120¢ more to complete pro-
use of tools and make his disposi-
tions to get to work, he is anxious
to start out in the morning, made
application for a trade store for
him at Boutwell's station, near the
promise of it, and will get the pa-
pers to-morrow. He very generous-
ly proposes that it be considered
part of the shingle transaction,
or I become co-partner in a store too,
one of his sons is to take charge of it.
Got Dr. P. to copy the Canal, and
went up to the Legislature to make
the acquaintance of some of the
members met a number and
was introduced by Maj. R. B. &
others to them, it is not proper to
speak of them definitely, from so
slight an acquaintance, there are
some quite intelligent, gentlemanly,
looking members, many not so. -

Friday, May, 6th, 1865

Obtained S. S. papers for his supply store, went on his bond with his son as security. Found an examination that the Canal Bill, I have spent two or more days working at, and preparing with great care is in conflict with the new Constitution of the State, the Legislature being prohibited by that instrument from granting special incorporation, except for political or municipal purposes. This is our other instance, and I have had many of them, of relying on the notions of others, without examining for myself. All I will not be foiled by this difficulty alone, so I have commenced a Bill to grant the right to construct the Canal to certain persons as a joint stock company.

Saturday, May 7th 1865

Completed the Bill for the joint stock company to make the Canal, submitted it to St. Louis, Mo., seemed well pleased with it, doubt if he is very competent to judge. Though a sensible, practicable man, he has not been engaged in making laws or studying them. I having difficulty in getting his bills of tools, supplies &c. through the Custom House Gov. Ward I went there with him, found the officers indisposed to talk to him, or give him any satisfaction about one of the accounts that would not be found in the office, they evidently mistake the business put in the hands of a broker. After I had talked to them a while they agreed to give him a duplicate clearance if he would get from his merchant a duplicate account. This I advised him to do. When he went to his

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Merchant he found his
clearance then, deposited by
some one, the merchant effected
not to know his name who instruct-
ed that I should pay \$1 before re-
ceiving the papers, this he refused
to do, and the Merchant had to give
him the papers, this was without
the act of some custom house
broker, and likely with the conniv-
ance of the Clerk, who was or
little disposed to attend to I.
Had a call from Mrs. Richard-
son, a remarkable character, of
this City, I think I have more than
once before referred to, she re-
mained, to my no little annoyance,
near an hour, talked incessantly,
but left me in doubt as to the real
object of her visit, she named several
things, mostly in my own interest,
such as to introduce me to prom-
inent persons and to have me
take some position where I might

be employed for the public good, was
solicitous as to my future employ-
ment, suggested going to the law here
and tender her services to introduce
me to lawyers and judges, she profess-
es to devote her life to ameliorating
the condition of her fellow beings;
but I confess myself in some doubt
whether she was not prompted more
by her woman's curiosity to know more
of me, than she had been able to learn,
than by any humanitarian mo-
tives, she concluded by inviting
me to take tea with her on Sunday
evening, this, to her evident sur-
prise, I declined, because as is true
I do not like to visit on the Sabbath, I
am conscious of doing many
worse things, but do not feel that this
is right, especially where, as would
have been the case to some extent, in
this instance, it partakes of a busi-
ness character, the fact is I did not
care to cultivate this acquaintance.

7) To too great intimacy, because
 I fear it would become irksome.
 Sunday, May, 8th, 1865.

I went this morn-
 ing to the Jesuit Church on
 Baronne St. Curiosity prompted
 me in part, and partly to hear the
 music. It is said to be better than
 at any other church in the city.
 I am not a judge in an artis-
 tic or scientific sense of either
 vocal or instrumental music. To
 my ear the singing seemed good
 indeed, and those who profess to be
 competent to determine pro-
 nounce it superior. The in-
 terior of the Church was fitted
 up, especially about the altar, with
 splendor almost gorgeous.
 The service was unintelligible to
 me, in great part, except the ser-
 mon, which was a good moral lec-
 ture of no marked ability. Spent
 most of the remainder of the day at my room

Monday, May, 9th, 1865.

We had a salute of 100
 guns this morning, as if on yesterday,
 in commemoration of the battle her
 first half a century ago. At eleven A.M.
 I went to the City Hall, where the State Legis-
 lature meets, to see some of the mem-
 bers and try to induce them to favor
 the passage of my Cane Beer. I only
 had an opportunity of talking to a few.
 They spoke favorably, and several men
 not of that body, who are supposed to
 have considerable influence, seem
 to take a lively interest in its passage.
 I invited Judge B. to my room and
 had a long talk with him on the sub-
 ject, he promises to urge the passage
 and talked as if he could have
 it pass through the house at
 once, and to see him at 10 A.M.
 to-morrow. At one o'clock to-day
 the two houses went into the election
 of a U. S. Senator for the term of
 six years from 4th of March next.

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There were present and voting 28
Senators and 64 members of the House,
92 on joint vote. As soon as the rolls
were called and the business for the
assembly was announced, there
was a half dozen or more striving
to be first to put in nomination
Governor Michael Huber. I am
not certain of spelling his name right,
after a little hesitation, as if he
were to be the only candidate,
a member rose and nominated
Elliott Smith, there being no
other name presented. The nomination
was well received, and the
voting, viva voce, began. Huber
receiving all but two, that were
cast for Smith. There was
reception with enthusiastic
applause; as soon as this subsided
it was moved and carried that
a committee wait on the newly
elected Senator, inform him
of the fact and invite him to

address the Assembly. He made his
appearance in a few minutes and
was greeted with uproarious applause.
Continuing till he had reached the
Speaker's stand. He is very lame and
has to use a crutch, short of stature,
but stout, fair complexion, amber
hair, small grey twinkling eyes, a full
round face, wreathed in a smile half
blame half sinister, not easily de-
scribed, but altogether impressive
me, as I have no doubt he is, as being
subtle, cunning demagog, of fair
ability for that order, not a great man
any, where, but a successful politician,
and, I should not think him 35,
though that is the age required by the
Constitution. His speech was full
of meekness, humility, and
conscious ineptness, for the
high place to which he had been
chosen but earnestly promised
his best and truest best efforts
in discharge of the high duties

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that involved on him, several times referring to the prominent part he had acted, as the standard bearer of the great free state movement. When any thing was said in favor of freedom, and the abolition of slavery, the audience responded in hearty applause. This was general, and joined in by those who, I feel confident are of different opinions, of circumstances warranting. But no great has been the temptation begotten of this war for dissimulation, that ^{it} would seem those who are as good and honest men feel justified in practicing it. Where all this is to me is but conjecture with the wisest. It certainly evidences a degree of political dishonesty among the masses unprecedented and may well give pause to the advocates of popular government. Does this find its posterity in the war, or is it the offspring of our political fabric?

Tuesday, May, 10th 1865

To day I have passed looking about the Legislature, trying to get some parties committed for the cause enterprise, have done little else.

Wednesday, May 11th.

To day not materially different from yesterday, some favorable indications of success.

Thursday, May, 12.

I have loafed out this day in a most tiresome manner, trying to please poor, miserable would be legislators; they assume, as far as they know, the airs of such, and must be coddled accordingly, well I can not do much else, and probably nothing more advantageously, so I will try to make the business of amusing them pleasant, and it may pay. Called to night on Dr. H. & family, found them well and in better spirits than usual.

Friday, Aug. 13th 1865
St. Gov. Wells and Maj. Jones of the Senate called on me this morning, had a conference on mode of proceeding with General Rice, passed part of the day at General Kirby's Head Quarters. Some time given to the Legislature, had two consultations as to operations in Texas, in cotton, nothing of any importance is likely to be done, called this evening on Mrs. Richardson, and was well talked by her. News from the Crimea not of much importance except as indicating activity, especially by Sherman. Think in a few days we shall have important news from him.

Saturday, Aug. 14.
Called this morning with R. B. Kingsbury on Gen. Canby to see Trouessart, found the Gen. quite pleasant, requested me to call.

Went between 7 & 8 this evening, I went next to the Legislature, met several members, had an interview with St. Gov. W. At 1 P.M. called on Mrs. Col. Brewster, found her very sociable spent half an hour or more with her. Met a Mrs. Whitelsey, there quite pleasant, this was a visit of duty as I had been invited to a party then sometime since, excuse out of my duty as well as I could. Returned to my room at 2 1/2 P.M. read till 3 P.M. dined. Spent the remainder of the evening reading till 7 o'clock, called on Gen. C. gave him my opinion of the persons and things he wished to inquire about. Prospected for getting home something better. Just had a conversation with Dr. J. about his cotton enterprise, found him in good, or rather better spirits, and hope he may do some good at it but doubt.

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Sunday, May 15th 1865
Went to the Catholic - Jesuit -
Church to-day, heard very little of
the sermon, being in the gallery.
I could neither see the minister,
or hear much he said, but was
favorably situated to hear the
music, the singing I suppose
is very good, it is so far from me,
and so I thought, but know so
little of music, my judgement
is worth nothing. This evening
received a telegram from Judge
Duvall and Mr. Swinson, on the
steam, stuck at the bar; they are
just returning from New York,
have been up to let Mrs. D. know
they are coming. The news seems
very gratifying to her. Recall re-
call the news to say, the military
situation looks flattering, but
there is much vitality in the Re-
bellion yet, and the war will con-
tinue for many a sad day to come.

Monday, May 16th, 1865
I called this morning
on Gen. Roberts, at his request to look
at a new breech-loading gun of his
own invention, liked it, thought it
entirely safe, and susceptible of be-
ing loaded and fired very rapidly,
had but little machinery, and that
not likely to get out of order. Found he
was desirous of getting it adopted by
the U.S. as the pattern for the general
arm of the service. Spent part of the
day with different members of
the Legislature talking of the
many merits of the proposed ar-
mal, procuring notice to be given of
its introduction in the Senate.

Tuesday, May 17th.
Severance S. Evans,
just over from Brazos Island,
called on me to-day. Most of them
have deserted the Rebel service, and
but few as far as I can learn, are
inclined to take service for the

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Union. The fact is, these men, have no fixed notions on the subject, have about as soon sense one side as the other, but if left to their own inclination would serve neither. They have money, grown tired of the Rebel service and pay & left it. Poor fellows they are meanly clad, with little or no money, and not much chance for many of them to obtain employment. I have not money to give them, but will do all in my power to get situations for them where they can make livings.

Wednesday Jan'y 18th,

Well there is some reports of Commissioners having been appointed to negotiate terms of peace. I do not think this is true so far as it represents that such have been appointed by the Rebel authorities. Davis is not the man to make peace on any

terms restoring the Union. he is too ambitious and selfish to do this, and when it ever is done, it will be by some power superior to his. There are evident indications of a wide spread feeling of opposition to Davis, but I do not think it strong enough yet to control. It has not become organized, it is unconscious of its strength, does not know if it is safe to act independently. I see all this shall occur. I do not look for peace. D. P. Price keeps up his mania for cotton, thinks he will get some in soon. It is likely he will, but I do not believe he will get in enough to do much good. I have not heard much of the Cause today. The bill is before the Committee, must look after it tomorrow and try and get it acted on at an early day. have been to see about Mr. Ann Gibson & Miss Jones, got off for Texas, procure permission & they will start in a few days.

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Thursday, Mar. 19th 1865
 This has been a very
 day, misting rain, with cool E.
 Wind. My feelings have been in
 strong sympathy with the weather
 or a heavy fall like gloom weighs
 heavily upon my spirits, I can
 not throw it off. I know not what
 to ascribe it to, It may be in part
 the weather in part the constant
 thought of my dear Wife and Child.
 The thought of them has been
 ever present since yesterday
 I learned Miss G. would be al-
 lowed to go to Texas, I am cer-
 tain I can write by her and that
 the letter will get home, but Oh God!
 how will it grieve them? And then
 to be unable to say when I will
 come. I know will be so painful
 to that poor heart that has al-
 ready suffered so much on my
 account, is oppressive to me be-
 yond expression. Really while

I feel ashamed ~~to admit it~~ I am con-
 strained to admit that life under
 these afflictions is often felt a weary
 burden. But I must ~~be~~ all for
 their sake, and if it be God's will I
 shall meet them again strive, & in
 some measure, to secure their happi-
 ness in the future. I felt so depressed
 all day that I have attempted to
 do but little, What can I do? What
 can any one, a more private cit-
 izen, like myself, do? Literally noth-
 ing. I must stand with folded arms
 and see the inevitable ruin roll
 over me in common with all the
 South. It is painful to think I have
 not overruled this, as to my family at
 least for I saw it plainly and pre-
 dicted it from the first. Yet I
 am now, clung to a delusive hope
 that this terrible ruin would not
 come. While my reason told me
 it would, I let the delusion control
 I suffer the penalty, here I alone

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The sufferer it would be less in-
 tolerable, but those whom God has
 blessed me with must be victims
 too. And what is to be the final des-
 tining of us all is veiled in imper-
 atable gloom. Utter poverty and
 want may come. I must do all
 in my power to avert these, and
 to-morrow bestir myself with
 renewed energy. The rumor of
 peace is repulsive to me. I do not
 believe a word of it. War is
 more true. A day or two will show,
 however, if there is any founda-
 tion for this peace rumor. Oh
 God grant it may be true.

Friday, Jan. 20th.

It has rained in-
 cessantly all day. I have been
 in more most of the time went
 out this morning and saw 97.
 54/100 & to Mrs. H. Bros. for Mr. D. S. & took
 & otherwise attended to his busi-
 ness. Nothing worth recording.

Saturday, Jan. 21st/1865-

About all I did to-day was to
 lobby about the Legislature. There is
 nothing more disagreeable to me, or
 that I am less qualified for. I hate
 the crowd. But I may make some-
 thing for my family to meet the wants
 of a future day, and whatever may
 be my distasteful duty requires I should
 make the effort.

Sunday, Jan. 22nd.

Attended church
 at The Presbyterian Church,
 heard the Rev. Mr. Beatty preach.
 He is a dull, heavy speaker, but
 preaches short sermons. Dined
 by invitation with Dr. Yeason.
 Spent the evening pleasantly with
 him and family. I do not like
 visiting on the Sabbath, and yet
 I am conscious of doing many
 worse things. It may be in part the
 result of habit and early association,
 by it what it may I am not ashamed of the
 feeling

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Monday, Jan. 23rd 1865.

I have been busy all day. General Canine, C. got him to agree to remove the disability that Capt. Speer labored under in consequence of his having been dishonorably dismissed from the service last summer. And also to allow Texas Refugees to enter the service. Papers come time about the Legislature, not very satisfactory, many fair promises, but find difficulty in getting anything done. Talk a great deal about cotton speculations, &c. &c.

Tuesday, Jan. 24th.

This has been a great holiday with the negroes, celebrating their emancipation here and the same course taken in Missouri and Tennessee. Gov. A. has set the day apart by proclamation, and the City Authorities, &

Military, to a partial extent observe it. A good deal of display was gotten up by the negroes and their friends, friends and admirers, compassion may be due the former, disgust and contempt I know are deserved by the latter who are prompt-ly, venal and base motives. I feel to do more than they do. But this is not the place or time to indulge in speculations. I have remained in my room most of the day.

Wednesday, Jan. 25th

Obtained a pass from the Post Marshal for James H. to carry 1000 lbs to Red River Landing to pay freight on cotton. Dr. P. has contracted for there, doubt if he gets the cotton. Met Gov. Miles, Maj. J. and others at the Legislature, conference with them on the Canal Bill promise it should be brought up to-morrow. Had a long interview with Mr. A. of Texas & Va. of this place.

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Thursday, Jan. 26th 1865

To-day has been so nearly a repetition of yesterday that it hardly deserves a separate notice. Except the promise as to the Canal Bill has been kept and the Bill has been referred to the Internal Improvement Committee. To obtain an early report from them is very desirable and important but especially to have it favorable.

Friday, Jan. 27th 1865

Received on Genl. C. O. O'Connell's order for recruiting troops for Texas, and provisions commissions for several persons, Mrs. C. - The Genl. being confined by his wound to his room - Came in and was very kind sincere and free in expressing the friendship of the Genl. towards me. Went with Miss G. and Miss J. to assist them on board the dispatch boat to go to their homes in Texas. They were

profuse in their expressions of gratitude for the services I had rendered them in procuring themselves permission to go home this way, and to carry with them such articles of merchandise as they desired. The Capt. of the boat was very civil towards them, gave up his room and made them very comfortable for more than I had expected, and greatly to their astonishment and delight. I sent by them a letter to my sweet wife, which I hope she will get, and they both promise to write to her as soon as they reach home. I reached my hotel at 8 P.M. and so lost my dinner, have spent the remainder of the evening conversing with Mr. Swenson about plans for the employment of the government of the freed. His views are far more practical & appropriate to the condition of things, so than any I have heard of.

91/ Saturday, Jan. 28th. 1865-
We have had a
chilly, damp day, not very
cold, but sufficiently so, with the
damp atmosphere to be disagree-
able. I learned from Gene C. that
A. J. DeWitt's Special Commis-
sion as Capt. and order removing
his disabilities consequent on
his dismissal, delivered them
to him and had the satisfac-
tion of seeing him made real-
ly happy and for the time, at least,
really grateful for the service I
had rendered him. I may have
done him injustice by the expos-
ition seeming to question his gra-
titude. He is not that order of man,
but a pure-minded, faithful
friend and gallant man. To ob-
tain justice for such is a pleasure,
and I think he has only here that
which he was entitled to. I doubt
not I shall be true for it by those

who did him the wrong. But what
if I am? It was my duty and my
pleasure to assist him as I hope I
shall oweful it my duty, when a
good man has been unjustly
dealt with. I have been much
amused at the disposition of
some Texans to enter legitimate
service by joining "what are termed
quarter master societies, which they
suppose is a sort of independent
service and I fear affording fa-
vorable opportunities for pil-
lage."

Sunday, Jan. 29th.
I have been, ever
amused to day, by a number of
office seekers, who suppose I have
the ability to procure places for them
in the organization allowed of Texas
Refugees. Most of them wish to be
Captains, some even one at least, and
he would take no office below that,
and he certainly fit for more.

See this rush for office, has
 for means of gratification prop-
 ably one company, and for that
 two of the three commissioned
 officers already are already ap-
 pointed. Now the Texans are ready
 to do service as soldiers as they are
 to procure office, a large force could
 be readily raised, But there is a
 very marked disinclination
 on the part of most of them to
 go into the service from a desire
 to battle for their lost homes and
 country. I have hardly left my
 room to-day, so numerous and
 pertinacious have been these
 aspirants for military position.
 This evening I have been read-
 ing Spenser's "American Uni-
 on" an English work strongly
 advocating the cause of seces-
 sion, as a right, wise and cer-
 tain of success. It is strongly
 partisan, but much of the prej-

judice against the U. S. Govt,
 common to English writers and
 betrays evident desire to see that
 government broken up. But to
 one who does not participate in that
 wish, it may be some consolation
 to see most of his predictions have
 failed thus far, and greatly lessen
 apprehension that the others may
 be verified.

Monday, Jan. 30th.

Spent most of
 the forenoon at the Legislature,
 prospect flattering to get General
 Rice passed. Went to see Genl. H.
 found him in good spirits and
 kindly disposed. Procure change
 in Commission issued to Spauld,
 from Capt. to Lt. Lieutenant so as to
 get him mustered as a recruit-
 ing officer. Spent the remainder
 of the day talking about the war,
 cotton trade and securing applica-
 tions for office.

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Tuesday, Jan. 31st 1865

Have to call on

Gen. G. to obtain permission for deserters from the Rebel Army to enlist in the U. S. Army. He gives me it readily for the specific service to Texas. The probabilities of peace much circumscribed in all circles, and the general impression is the war will not last sixty days. If it be true that F. P. B. Jr. has returned to Richmond I am disposed to regard with much confidence that circumstance as strongly indicating an early termination of the war. But since I have to hope too much. There are many difficulties in the way of a speedy settlement, and not the least among them, Davis himself. He will not yield as long as he can control. Let us hope the best, peace.

Wednesday, February 1st, 1865

All another month has gone by, and no great change in this locality. But a great deal has been effected in a general way throughout the Confederacy. The most marked changes are in the tone of the newspapers and the party opposed to Davis, both indicating a different state of feeling among the masses. This is pretty conclusive of what may be expected in the course of a few weeks more with the same proportion of success or failure, a complete tumbling down of the whole Rebel fabric. I have done but little, tried to get something done in the Legislature and got of it to work recruiting. I fear this will be a slow business. The Refugees, so styled, are much disinclined to enter the service, they have no other feeling than to keep out of the service.

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Thursday, February 2nd, 1865.
This day has been spent
listening to applications for
office, talking of cotton opera-
tions and reading newspapers
with a couple of hours devoted
to the Legislature. We have a re-
mor that Richmond has fallen,
brought to Baton Rouge by Rob-
ert Desenter, who says it was tele-
graphed to Clinton Miss. that
the place surrendered on the
30th ult. that Lee's army are
prisoners &c. I do not believe
a word of it. Think a month
hence such may be true.
Went this evening to Genl C.'s
reception, introduced to a
number of the military.
Kindly treated by all and feel
the evening has been well
spent. It is important to know
the military these times. Thos. J.
confess I have not much left for
them.

Friday, Feby, 3rd, 1865.
Devoted the greater
part of the day to the Legislature,
got the Committee on Internal Im-
provements together, i.e. three of the
five had a free consideration
of the Canal Bill with favorable re-
sult, some objection to the immen-
se grant of land, but finally concluded
to let it go, and so agreed to report it
to the Senate without material
change. Think it will come up
Monday next, as the Senate ad-
journed over till then.
Saturday, Feby, 4th.
Nothing further about the
fall of Richmond. The report
was doubtless a fabrication.
We are having most disagree-
able weather now, but heavy
fog and mist all day. Went to
night to St. Charles Theatre to see the am-
bition, a perfect conglomeration
with a good many good bits.

99 Sunday, February 5th 1865.
Not a word of news from
any quarter to-day. Started at
11 A.M. to the Presbyterian Church,
when about half way, the mist that
has filled the air for two days, thick-
ened into a rain, driving me un-
der a umbrella and suffering from a cold
that has annoyed me for the last
month. Turned back, and have
remained in doors all day,
coughing and suffering a good
deal from a "bad cold," reading
some, talking to Sunday Tex-
ans, and Dr. P. and myself con-
soling with each other our own
condition and the fate that
might befall our families. This
at times quite annoys me, in
fact almost drives me to desper-
ation. It is not enough that I know
I am powerless to help myself, that
fact is maddening. I will not be so
always if I have power to change it.

Monday, February 6th. 1865.
Telegrams and newspaper
correspondence report that Blair's
mission has been a success, and that it
has been a failure. The latter is doubtless
true. There will be no peace by Davis, and
those adhering to him, on the terms of
restoring the Union. Such I have at all
times thought. He is a cold, passionless,
selfish and ambitious man, not likely
to lose sight of himself, nor voluntari-
ly, make terms that would place him
before the world in the character of a
traitor and felon, who owes his life to
the clemency of the Government he
had sought to destroy. A slow driz-
zling rain has fallen all day, cold
east wind and most disagreeable weather.
A number of Texans got over last night
from Brazos San Antonio, deserters and
refugees. They are between 30 and 40 in
number, such as I have seen are not
enough looking and dispirited, think
they aim to keep out of the war.

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Tuesday, February 7th, 1865

This has been a day of perplexities. Commenced with the Internal Improvement Committee, who proposed to amend the Canal Bill so as to require the Canal to be 60 ft. wide and 6 ft. deep, with other onerous amendments. Got them to meet at 10 in the morning for the opinion of men experienced in such business and acquainted with the Can. Aqueduct. Man after man has called throughout the day, some wanting one thing, so another, and nearly all that I have not to give, or something I wished to have nothing to do with. Had a long talk with Mr. Beebe and Mr. Gilmore recently from Texas, got some information of a general character. They, like many others have staid as long as they found it profitable or safe, and no consequence to others with difficulties when they will return.

Wednesday, February 8th, 1865

There are more than usual rumors afloat to-night. First that peace Commissioners have arrived at Washington, which I do not believe. Second, that Genl. Thomas has arrived in the City and that a large portion of his army is just behind him, on the river, coming down. The troops are probably coming, but it is the Adj. Genl. Thomas who is here. Then it is stated Genl. Harbuck has been removed and ordered to Washington, and that Genl. Banks is certainly to be here soon.

Thursday, Feb 9th,

But little has transpired to-day, reported that the Emperor Maximilian has recognized the S. Confederacy. This is so insignificant from the fact that the Military Commander at Matamoros surrendered to Confederate officers deserters on the charge of felony, under the extradition treaty between Mexico & the U.S.,

113) Monday, February 13, 1865

Friday last, about noon, I felt chilly sensations, in addition to severe pain in the head, back and limbs, with slight soreness about the throat. Being at the time at the Legislature, I repaired to my room and after sitting over the fire awhile, went to bed with a high fever, which lasted me near twenty-four hours. To-day I have been up, though feeling quite weak, with some soreness still about root of my tongue, hope I shall be quite well again in a few days. Much has transpired in the last three days, or rather much has reached us, of a character doubtless that saddens many a heart by disappointment of cherished hopes of peace. We have had full accounts of the so styled peace conference, all resulting in a declaration on the part of

The Rebels to prosecute the war till their independence is achieved. At any rate they decline to negotiate on other terms than a prior recognition of their independence. In view of all the existing circumstances, the repeatedly expressed purpose on the part of the U. S. Govt. The recent signal and important victories obtained &c &c, it is not very readily perceived why Mr. Davis should have sent Commissioners with such instruction. He must have known the condition would not be yielded. But it may be to answer the clamor for peace that the Yankees refuse to negotiate a peace with us, and now you must see that the only course left is to prosecute war. It is not believe, however that this answer will satisfy those who desire peace on the basis of reconstruction. And there are many such and many who prefer it to the

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was on any terms. As well he seems by
previous remarks, I am not disap-
pointed in the result of the promise
of peace. Yet I must have partaken
unconsciously of the hope which
cheered my friends, for I find
come over ^{me} a feeling of sadness,
as if some serious mishap or dis-
appointment had occurred. Such is
the effect of association that our
feelings give way to the feeling
and sympathy of those around us.
It has become quite warm, and is
now raining again. The crops of
rain is quite as objectionable for more
to me, as ^{are} the draughts of Texas.

Tuesday, Feb. 14th.

This has been very much a
day of inaction and quite
void of interest. Rain at in-
tervals through the day and
warm as spring. God preserve
and protect my wife and child
and make me able to bear this long
waiting.

Wednesday, February 15th, 1865

Borrowed to day of
Willis Stuart two hundred dollars,
green backs, which with one hun-
dred obtained from him a few days
since, make three hundred dollars.
I owe him. I am not out of money,
but have advanced this character of
funds to another to a greater amount,
which I expect to get back in time
to replace this, so as to be able to keep
my specie, which is getting low.
No incident of importance has
transpired, and I feel altogether
too gloomy and depressed to attempt
to write my thoughts.

Thursday, Feb. 16th.

Attended Mrs. Cambry's
reception to night, a large and brilliant
concourse of the military & citizens.

Friday, Feb. 17th

Quorum in the senate
better prospect for the Clonal bill. Time
may be found too short, I distrust my luck.

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Saturday February 18th, 1865

Mr. Roepler and Ridge

Paschal got in this evening on the transport from Brazos Island. The former reports from Austin, Tex. as late as 14th ult. says he saw my brother shortly before leaving, and that he, his and my family were all well; but brought me no letter. It is most gratifying to hear this much though I think it very strange I got no letter, and I am anxious to hear from my dear wife and child. The reason must be the apprehension of danger from writing letters, lest they might fall into the hands of the rebels; and as especial hate is entertained towards me it may be safer to risk nothing. The greatest intolerance and oppression are continued towards Unionists. Still R. says many original secessionists are now for "peace only terms".

Sunday, Febr. 19th 1865

Have talked a good deal with Mr. Roepler, especially on the military situation of Texas.

Monday, Febr. 20th 1865

Recd. invitation to take tea at Genl. C's with Maj. Genl. Wallace, to converse with him. (Genl. H. & Judge D. being also invited) on Texas matters. Found Genl. W. a pleasant, easy, affable gentleman; near 5 ft. 9 in. high, high, straight nose, not very prominent, ~~even~~ regular, rather handsome features, complexion thin dark, small gray eyes. I judge him 40 years old, of a clear, cultivated mind rather than vigorous or forcible. The interview was not altogether satisfactory to me. It seemed constrained and the objects disclosed did not seem of sufficient importance to call for the interview. It may be the unexpected presence of an humble war the cause.

109 *Wednesday February 22, 1865*

In Commemoration of Washington's birth day the national flag was displayed and a salute fired. Most of the public offices were closed but no great manifestation of joy went on this occasion. How could there be when the whole community is torn down by the oppression of the war.

Thursday Feb. 23rd,

Nothing to distinguish this from the majority of my unprofitable life. A great many troops have and are arriving here. I know not if they are to go to Tex. I have strong hope they will for I am satisfied peace can only be obtained by the sword. I wish it could be otherwise, but ~~since~~ it is clear it can not be, I have no other alternative, then red war.

Friday Feb. 24th, 1865

I have devoted myself to trying to get up recruits for J. S. Cavalry Company to go to Texas, find great hesitation on the part of Texans to go into service, hope for better feeling when this company shall be filled up, as I hope it will in a few days.

Saturday, Feb. 25th,

News tonight of the capture of Brandyville T. C. and reported advance on Charleston, also on Wilmington. Attended the meeting of Loyal National Texas League, heard Gen. H. make an abolition speech. The services by one Leopold and others singing "John Brown" Ye gods!!!

Sunday, Feb. 26th,

Devoted most of the day to reading and unprofitably moping over my own condition and the probable situation of my family. How horrible this life is.

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Monday, February 27th, 1865

Spent most of the day in trying to get up recruits, find the slow and most irksome business. Though a few are obtained every day and one company will be filled in a short time. It is hoped the recruiting will then go on better. The news from Genl. Sherman is favorable, he seems to hold the commanding positions in S. C. and must soon be in position to invest Charleston or force its evacuation.

Tuesday Feb. 28th.

This day is called by the French Mardi Gras (Fat Thursday) and is observed as a holiday by them, being celebrated by processions, balls, riding and driving through the streets in masks and all in a jivable gay and ridiculous

costume which seems to give them great pleasure, but I must admit I failed to see anything particularly amusing in the elaborate disguises of either dress or character assumed. This is the termination of the carnival when all are supposed to go on a diet in meats to do them through the forty days of Lent commencing with tomorrow.

March 1st. (Wednesday) 1865

Well here is the beginning of spring and though there is great activity in the movement of troops and extensive military preparations, I am in doubt if any move is intended for Texas. The news though from the last is very cheering. It is authoritatively announced that Charleston is evacuated and great portion of it burned by the Rebels, leaving many women & children in desti-

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destitution, and want. It is
like many a heart now bruised
and bleeding under the iron
heel of revolution, will silently
glow with pleasure at the an-
nouncement, that this sacred
spot of the rebellion has fallen.

Thursday March 2nd.

Called on Genl.
Hurlbut in relation to Refugees
being furnished transportation
north, and Brig. Genl. H.
on the same subject. He said
he would attend to it in com-
mon, this I understood to
mean he did not intend to
do any more thing but wish-
ed to get rid of me, well it will
be some time before I call
on him again. Devoted
most of the day to recruiting.

Friday March 3rd.

Called this morning to see Genl.
Canby with reference to Texas

affairs, had just commenced the
conference when Mrs. C. terminated
it by requesting I would defer it till
she could get the Genl. to redeem his
promise to turn his Photograph taken,
which I readily assented to and
fixed 7 P.M. to renew the inter-
view. Called at 7, found the
Genl. had been appropriated
by the Commission and spent the
evening very pleasantly with Mrs.
C. Telegram received this eve-
ning that Wilmington had
fallen being abandoned as
the national Troops moved
on it leaving it in the hands of a large
number of prisoners behind.
If so, they certainly did not
care much to get away. It has
been very warm, almost sum-
mer heat, to-day, and is now
raining. It would seem so
much rain must seriously
retard planting.

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Saturday, March 4th 1865

Lieutenant Governor of
Madison Prees was inaugurated as
Governor of Louisiana today vice
Michael A. Hahn resigned to take
his seat - if he can get it - in U.S. Sen.
etc. The ceremony of inaugurating
a St. Gov. is altogether more to me
ground celebration by the fire
companies of this or their an-
versary day. The first I have
told they have had since the fall
of New Orleans. Companies all
became well filled with men
& presented quite a display
of pagantry in the way of flags,
banners &c.

Sunday, March 5th,
Attended Janitor Catholic
Church, read news papers,
dined with Refugees about
five spots for Texas, took a long
walk, returned and brooded
over the "situation".

Sunday, March 6th 1865.

A bright, sunny day,
but devoid of special interest.
Had a long talk with Mr. Pierce,
Ex Consul at Matamoros. Think
much assistance could be ob-
tained from Refugees and others
in any expedition in Texas,
especially reference to a man
of influence (could not re-
collect his name) living some
30 or 40 miles above Brownsville.

Tuesday, March 7th,

Nothing occurred out of
the ordinary routine.

Wednesday, 8th, March

The same as the last several
days, or so nearly so as to present
nothing worth notice.

Thursday, March 9th,

Passed most of the time
striving with refugees, found
it as usual a difficult work,
returning little or no fruits.

117 Friday, March 10th, 1865-

Received a letter from my dear wife, it has been a long time coming, being dated the 17th Jan. past, and come too by way of three, but it has given me an speakable gratification to hear my more than loved wife and child are well, or at least are in sufficient health to report that they are, and that Edwin's throat is much improved. I have suffered the most painful apprehensions on his account, and now how gratifying to have his dear mother write so confidently of his improvement. Ah! but it is hard to be separate as I am from these loved objects of my life, I am not without hope, thank God, that I shall see them again in a few months, and I trust never to be separated from them.

Saturday, March 11th, 1865-

Visited Governor, W. and Genl. H.

Sunday, March 12th.

Went to church and spent the day otherwise becomingly, or at least in quiet meditation.

Monday, March 13th.

Called on Mrs. Canby, she is a sad, poor lady, and has at all times ^{been} kindly disposed towards me, especially so to-day.

Tuesday, March 14th.

Called on Governor Wells in the interest of Judge P. Visited the Theater, saw Rose Dale.

Wednesday, March 15th.

Heavy rain, streets quite flooded, been out but little.

Thursday, March 16th.

Devoted most of my energies to writing, did but little of course.

119 Friday, March 14th 1865.
 How blank of items
 of interest, nothing, nothing
 worth recording unless it be
 the weather has cleared up, &
 quite cool for the season.
 Visited the Theater this eve-
 ning to see the great play of
 Richilieu by Lawrence Barrett.
 He is a man of considerable
 dramatic talent, and present-
 ed the great Cardinal in an
 admirable manner. It is won-
 derful, how to the life, so young
 a man can act the
 old and infirm. I received
 several commissions for
 parties to recruit for Texas
 Cavalry. Well this success is a
 question I often ask myself,
 but fear to answer.

Saturday March 18th.
 Devoted a part of the
 day to recruiting and have

The satisfaction, this evening, of
 knowing that one company is
 complete. This is but a small
 proportion of number of men
 necessary to enable me to rejoin
 my family, but it is a beginning.
 It kindles a faint hope that in
 a few months enough may be
 obtained to commence con-
 sideration. In this point of
 view I regard the enterprise of
 the greatest importance to the loyal
 people of Texas; but so intensely
 selfish are some that they would
 not believe, rather any means
 were they are not at the head of,
 should fail than succeed.
 At the Theater again to night,
 saw Mr. Booth by L. F. and feel
 quite compensated for my
 outlay. At times he exhibited
 high dramatic talent, howev-
 er, given much study to
 elocution it is worth listening to.

121 Sunday, March 19th, 1865
 Attended the Episcopal
 Church, Rev. Mr. Chubbuck
 preached a very short, but still a
 very dull sermon. He remarked
 by his enunciation and delivery
 no better, all in all the least
 interesting minister I have heard
 of that Church. Wrote a long letter
 to my wife, when will she get it,
 if ever and when shall see her
 again if ever? are questions,
 especially the latter, that have
 come, unbidden to my mind
 many times to night. Oh God
 vouch save to me this great
 joy.

Monday, March 20th.
 Attended to several
 troublesome little affairs
 with the military, brought around
 the Legislature, lobbying for the
 Canal project. It may pass,
 but doubt full, or so altered as

to be equivocal to a defeat.
 Mr D. S. returned from his mis-
 sion to make provision to bring
 sugar and other property through
 the lines, success not complete
 but prospect flattering. will give
 this subject my best attention to-
 morrow. Several recruiting
 officers, started for Texas and
 Mexico this evening, to recruit
 for 2nd Tex. Caval Regt. much fear
 they will not do much good till there
 is some demonstration made to
 satisfy the loyal men that a force
 adequate to take & hold the country
 is moving into the State.

Tuesday, March 21st.
 Almost everything
 has gone wrong today, general post-
 ponement, Canal put off to Thurs-
 day, Commission for officers &
 mustn't part off, and definite an-
 swer for getting a boat to bring in
 sugar to be given to-morrow.

123 Wednesday, March 22, 1865

Had an interview with J. H. Leflore of Limestone Co. Texas. He is wild, enthusiastic, fanatical, egotistical, ambitious and with limited intelligence, was sure he could raise a Regt., but must have a distinct promise he should be colonel, prefer a commission now, any how no man must be appointed over him. That he was the equal, tho. in rank, of any one and much of the same character. J. H. called and spent some time with me. Travel over much of political ground, we view the past with greater difference than the future, a man of fine intelligence, of Roman virtue & integrity, a treat to meet with though you can not agree with him politically.

Thursday, March 23d, 1865.

Called this morning on Governor Bell, but could not get to see him, or did not after waiting near an hour. It was my purpose to let him understand my appreciation of his perfidious conduct in relation to the Canoe enterprise and to ask that he and his confederates should not rob, Ould man Smith who had originated the scheme & furnished all the information, and as an act of friendship had delayed its introduction till his return. That he might be interested in it, that I was poor, destitute, with a large family on his wages, and that I was willing, in fact desirous, my name should be taken out & doubted not others from Texas would also, as there was evident desire to secure on the part of

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Senators to exact heavy
bribes for their votes on the
bill, that having refused
all advances, for the first with
indignation & scorn. The
latter would be certain to fol-
low, and to save Mr. La Morthy
man, and to get out of such
vile association. I wish
my name taken out, and
they could appropriate the
interest as they might agree.
As I could not get an inter-
view with his Excellency I
could not carry out my in-
tention, and regret it, but will
not renew the attempt. will
leave the hungry thieves to
garble over and enjoy the
spoils. This is another les-
son, and I have had many,
from the times. The vicious &
venal are in power, and the
outrage will be great & greater

See the people, no longer able
to bear the burthen, will hurl
them from place, with infamy
& not the halter. On Monday the
men assured me, in the most
positive manner, that the bill
would pass next day, that the
senators have agreed, on that
night His Excellency had a
council at his house of several
of them & on Tuesday these
same senators, who had assur-
ed me of its passage, either absent-
ed themselves, or voted its re-
ference to a special com-
mittee. When men can be
guilty of such perfidy the
wonder they are vice of the life
will be the sacrifice. And one
of these men (Jones) is appointed
one of the judges of the Sup.
Court. If he is not in the pen-
itentiary in less than five years
justice will not be administered.

127 Friday March 24th 1865-
What shall I write to-
night? Nothing of special im-
portance but transpired and
yet several trifling matters have
occurred, and it is true that
human life, in the main, is
made up of atomic events,
and should not be altogether
overlooked. Then there is
the passage through the Senate
of the, after allusion to, Canal
Bill, passed with serious alter-
ations, but if I am correctly in-
formed there is much sub-
stance left in it yet. It may
pass the house without fur-
ther inquiry but there the doubt
is of the acts of the Legislature
since he had vacated. They ought
not, but may be, talked much
about recruiting, setting up an
expedition to Texas, he, tried to
get some orders, but failed.

Saturday, March 25th 1865-
Spent this day mak-
ing arrangements to get some
property from Vermillion Bay, made
a contract with Capt. M., to furnish a
boat, money and outfit at his own
risk. The prospects are fair for a
considerable business, but I have
been so often disappointed that
I have ceased to regard anything
with much confidence that is
dependent on human trans-
actions and the future. The
news from the seats of war is, to
my mind, favorable for the Un-
ion, more so than at any pre-
vious time. Davis in his mes-
sage admits the possibility of
failure. Lee is represented as
stating he is overmatched. I do
not believe this was said by him,
though it is certainly true. Lee
is moving on without serious
difficulties & looks well for peace.

129 Sunday March 26th. 1865
Went to church at 11 A.M.
heard Dr. Freeman on the
character of the Prophet Eli-
jah, did not think he handled
the subject with much ability,
but he is a pleasant speaker, &
describes localities, scenery &
well. Remained about my
room most of the remain-
der of the day. Think of my
dear little family, how are
they and when will I see
them again? The memory
of the pleasant manner I
have always spent the sat-
urday with them hallow the
day, but it returns ever brings
a feeling of sadness over me,
The members all society dis-
tasteful. Could I but see,
or even know how my dear
wife & child are to-night how
grateful I should be.

Mercury, March 27th. 1865.
Given some attention
to making preparations for the
expedition to Vermillion Bay
after sugar, cotton & stock, doubt
if much money is realized, but
some may be spent to St. Charles
Theatre, San Antonio of Monte
Christo present, tolerably well
done. Much rain a most
of the day and I have felt more
gloomy than usual. It is re-
morse on the streets that there
has been a severe battle before
Mobile, in which the Rebels have
been triumphant, the Feder-
al forces suffering severely in
killed, wounded & prisoners,
I cannot believe it.

Tuesday, March 28th.
The Vermillion enterprise
is in doubt and uncertainty, but
join to fail for want of a boat.
and, like all else has come, I fear will.

129 Wednesday, March 29th, 1865

Two events transpired today I had despairing of a boat has been obtained to go to Vermilion Bay, and this Canal Bill was finally passed by the legislature. Both these enterprises promise handsome results, the former at an early day, if at all, the latter at some future time; it may be years before much can be realized, but if the war should terminate soon earlier results may be secured.

Thursday, March 30th. Nothing has transpired about from the ordinary routine of looking after recruiting etc.

Friday March 31st.

"So day is too much like yesterday to be distinguished from it except it is the end of the month & I am not on my way home."

Saturday, April 1st, 1865

I have more confidence that the war is soon to end than I have felt at any previous time, tho. I do not find any one else who participates to the same extent in this expectation. I draw my conclusion from such data as Mr. Davis' message, when he admits the chance of failure - a great deal from him, his letter to Genl. Lee giving to the latter power to treat for peace, Genl. Lee's letter to Genl. Grant and his reply complies with the sudden departure of Pres. Lincoln to Genl. Grant's headquarters all are to my mind strong indications of a willingness on the part of the Rebel to take peace without conditions. If L. is sensible or just he will make the terms as tight as practicable, and if so we should have peace.

131 Sunday April 2^d 1865
Attendance service at
the Episcopal Church, heard
a fervor sermon by Rev. Mr. Chubb
Dodd, from the Gospel by St. John
Ch. 1 Verse 4. Spent most of the
remainder of the day at my
room, entertaining visitors.
Loving principle.

Monday April 3^d.
This day has passed
without ^{an} incident of the slightest interest.

Tuesday April 4th
The news from W. and
S. Carolina is favorable. The
visit of President S. Ex. President
Silliman and Mr. Seward
to Genl. Grant, H. D. I. is indicative
of one of two things either
negotiations for peace, or
to concert as to the plan of
the Spring Campaign. Silliman's
looks more like the former.

Wednesday April 5th 1865
Genl. Wallace & Davis returned
last night from their mission
to Brazos Santiago and Galveston,
without having effected anything
unless it was to find the Rebel
officers disinclined to make
terms on their own responsibility
and for themselves. I had entertained
a feeble hope that a different
result might be attained, but it seems the sword alone
must settle this great calamity.

Thursday April 6th.
No news of any importance
from any quarter. The weather
is getting quite warm and dry,
after day, dries slowly away
without my being able to do
anything in this great struggle. I
am doomed to so continue till
the end, if I shall live that long &
it may be seeing home & loved ones more.

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Monday, April 10th, 1865

News from Richmond & Mobile has been abundant, it has literally streamed in from these places and S. Carolina.

That Richmond has fallen is certain and Lee's Army has lost heavily, making liberal allowance for exaggeration.

It is stated, over 20,000 prisoners, including many general officers, have been captured, and the remaining force under Lee have fled by superior numbers - one report is, Lee has been captured.

The Virginia Army may be regarded as lost to the rebellion. It is also stated Sherman has whipped Johnston capturing 10,000 prisoners. This I doubt. Grant has captured Fort Blaker & Spanish Fort with a large number of pris-

isoners. Leaving out of the consideration all that is doubtful, there is enough accomplished to certainly terminate the war at an early day, if the fighting in the way of pitched battles, is not already over. The rebellion is crushed and the South may be regarded a conquered, if not a subjugated people. While I have desired the overthrow of rebellion, as a necessity to preserve republican institutions and better for the American people, yet I can not enter into the rejoicing with any zest. There is a melancholy obscurer my vision when I would look to the future, and see or fancy I see a great cloud of Yankee bragadovia and overbearing and see the people of Southern masses will be looked on

133 Friday, April 7th, 1865.

It is announced, via Mobile, that U.S. forces have taken Selma, Ala. capturing 29 pieces of artillery, besides a large amount of other public property. This, it is rumored, has been done by Brig. Gen. Meason, in command of some 1400 Cavalry. If this be true he may do the Rebels great damage along the Alabama river, or, probably take Montgomery, and materially aid in the recapture of Mobile. The day is calm & rainy.

Saturday, April 8th.

I have not been at ease well to day, some fever and headache, feel better to night. The news is most encouraging from Richmond. Three days fighting, many killed & wounded, and 12000 rebels reported as taken, Richmond was evacuated & occupied by the national forces. If this prove true as to the number of prisoners taken

or any way near it, Lee's army must be greatly demoralized, and with proper management on part of Grant, will be too much reduced to make formidable resistance, even united with Johnston's Army against Sherman. It seems impossible for them to continue much longer after this. It must end at an early day in peace, or degenerate into a guerrilla warfare. I do not think there is any danger of the latter, except in circumscribed localities, where the nature of the country is very favorable, the cupidity of the people will put it down.

Sunday, April 9th.

Attended the Jesuit Catholic Church, heard good music, but understood little else. Spent most of the remainder of the day in my room. Called on Mr. Wells & family.

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As a very cruel people,
 and treated by the mass of the
 North as such, Besides, there
 must now come a great re-
 action among Southern-
 ers themselves, the leaders
 will be blamed, it will soon
 become fashionable to de-
 spise, denunciations will
 follow, demagogues will
 become loud-mouthed, the
 public mind become greatly
 excited, easily lead in the di-
 rection of the popular ten-
 dency, and there is very great
 danger of unprincipled
 designing men, men who
 seek office and position as
 a livelihood and for spoils, get-
 ting into positions of control, &
 being enabled to vituperate
 the most rational measures
 of governmental policy. It will
 be the ~~high~~ highest duty to avert this.

Tuesday, April 18th 1865

The news of the fall of Rich-
 mond has been the occasion
 of exhibiting, in a wonderful de-
 gree, the tenacity of some of the
 secessionists, tho' officially an-
 nounced in the most solemn
 manner, salutes, fire by order of
 Sec. of War, general rejoicing and
 everything that would ordinari-
 ly be sufficient to establish any-
 thing was improbable fact, yet there
 are many who disbelieve, or at
 least doubt the truth, cling to
 the hope that it is not so. The sin-
 cerity of such men is not to be
 questioned, nor can I add to
 their mortification by any dem-
 onstration of joy in their pres-
 ence, their grief must be most
 poignant and will suffer enou-
 gh by their failure for the wrong
 they have committed, how
 great soever that wrong.

139 Wednesday, April 12th 1865
Nothing of any additional importance to the news today. Called on Mrs. Canby, spent a short time pleasantly with her. She is a very pleasant, well educated, of fair average capacity & tolerable intelligence. Has all the time been very friendly disposed towards me, and today presented me her photograph.

Thursday, April 13th.
News of the capture of Mobile, or rather taking possession, the rebels having evacuated. It got away with the garrison. No particulars are given, where they will go or they could get off is matter of conjecture. Rumor of Lee's surrender, it may be true. It has been my opinion he would do so.

Friday, April 14th 1865.

Today there is official announcement that Gen. Lee surrenders his army to Gen. Grant on the 9th inst. on conditions prescribed by Gen. G. i. e. Men & officers to be paroled as prisoners of war, retain their side arms and private property. This news produces very great sensation. Tho. no boisterous or postive demonstration of rejoicing, but very loyal men seem heartily to rejoice over it, as the certain termination of the war, as it doubtless is. There is no chance for the rebels to make any formidable resistance or to hold for any length of time any place without this army. Besides, Lee has been the main pillar of the rebellion for over a year.

14! Saturday, April 15th, 1865 -
 Extensive preparations
 are making to celebrate Lee's
 surrender and the fall of Mo-
 bile. Two hundred guns are ex-
 cused to be fired at 12 M, in
 La Fayette Square, flags displayed
 at all public buildings & many
 private ones, grand illumina-
 nation, music and public
 speaking. I passed through
 several streets to see the sights,
 but saw none of the speaking.
 Those who did seem to think
 it was common place. About
 noon news was received that
 Genl. Johnston had surren-
 dered his army to Genl. Sher-
 man. This does not come in
 official form & I doubt it.
 But it has added much to the
 rejoicing, is taken as true &
 may be so doubtless will in a
 few days of not already.

Sunday, April 16th, 1865.
 This, as usual with the
 Sabbath, has been a gloomy day
 with me. It brings up recollection
 of home with all its hallow
 associations, on this day I so
 long habitually spent with
 my family. And the question
 recurs again and again, how
 are they & how bearing this long
 & dreary separation. On they
 molest me or permit me to stay
 quietly at home and all that I do
 hope I have not many more
 to spend thus, but by the blessing
 of God will be able to join them
 once more. Attended Church
 this morning at the Episcopal
 Church, and again this evening
 to witness the Ordinance of bap-
 tism as administered by the Ori-
 ental Orthodox Church - usual-
 ly called, I believe the Greek Church.
 The service was all in a foreign

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language and seemed of
very great length. Two small
children were to be baptised.
They were taken to the entrance
of the church by the officiating
minister, accompanied by
their friends, all prostrate them-
selves. Minister laid his hands on
their heads, then read from a
book, ~~in~~ rapidly for some 20
minutes, when the party moved
along the aisle to the altar, on
which were candles burning, &
incense of some sort nearby. The
children were placed in tubs stand-
ing, from each of hair cut from each
of their heads, & dropped in the tubs.
Then three tumblers of water
poured on the head of each. As
much as half an hour was oc-
cupied in this service. The min-
ister alternately reading and
chanting - joined by members - all
the time. The cross was then made

with oil, on the foreheads of the
children, and the sermon ended,
it seemed abruptly and all without
any formality separation. The dress
of the minister was much like that
of the Episcopal, except more ex-
travagant decorations.

Monday April 17th.
Nothing of much interest has
transpired some further partic-
ulars of the operations at Mobile
and in Virginia.

Tuesday 18th.
Last evening Cong-
regation to Genl. H. a settlement.
I thought might be brought
through negotiation with Genl.
S. in the Trans-Mississippi De-
partment, that I knew Genl. C.
would favor it and that it would
be better for Texas to concede.
The negotiations. It highly ap-
proved the suggestion and pro-
posed at once further confer-

conference on the subject,
 and volunteered to procure
 permission to go and see Genl
 C. on the subject. He did not
 keep his engagement to con-
 fer with me, but went off
 with Genl H. This evening to
 see Genl C. I suppose on
 this subject. So much for
 ambition and jealousy.
 Wednesday, 19th April.

This morning brought
 the horrible intelligence of
 the assassination of Pres.
 Lincoln & Secy Seward by
 J. Wilkes Booth, who shot the
 President in Ford's Theatre, and
 an accomplice, name not
 ascertained, assassinated
 the Secretary, inflicting seven
 wounds on Mr. S. and mor-
 tal ones on an attendant. A
 knife only seems to have been
 used on the Secy, but it ap-

pears the blows were given the
 Secy and attendant with heavy
 six shooter. It is reported that
 the Secy is not dead. This a
 most appalling crime, at the thought
 of which we stand aghast. It is out of
 the ordinary catalogue of crimes com-
 mitted by Americans. They have her-
 tofore regarded it with horror and
 detestation, and can not be con-
 templated without a feeling of
 national disgrace. It is not in
 the power of human foresight
 to foresee the consequences that
 may result from this diabolic-
 al crime. If it should appear
 the commencement of a
 plan of operations by the des-
 perate men of the country, I
 will not say of the South, for
 it is as apt to be sons of liberty of
 the West. The consequences
 will be too terrible to contem-
 plate. The excitement has been

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great all day, and fears entertained of violence by the soldiers and Union men to words. Rebels, from deaths are reported of parties who were known to rejoice at the occurrence, the soldiers are under arms, and our ulry are parolling the principle streets.

Thursday April 20th

Twelve months ago to-day I left my home, little thinking I should be so long separated from my wife & son, around whom gather all my cares, anxieties and hopes of future happiness. It has been a year of painful anxiety and gloom, and even now though I hope to get home in a few weeks, yet the future holds out no cheering promise of peaceful security and repose from

This long feverish anxiety and care. If the war is to degenerate into assassinations and murders whose life is secure? and when will law, order, good government and social order be restored? It will I fear not come to this generation. Even just now a secret detective told me they had discovered a plot here to assassinate Genl. Banks. That a number of arrests had been made and a quantity of arms and ammunition discovered. This looks very improbable, so much so that I can not bring myself to believe it. Should it prove true it will be difficult to prevent violence and once it begins there is no telling where it may go to. God grant it may not be true. Surely the people are not maniacs, none other would act so.

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Friday, April 21st, 1865

At an early hour this morning I was aroused from my morning slumbers by Dr. Phillips already up and dressed, and ready for his trip to Brasher City, Thence to Mesquite river to bring in stock, if he can get hold of them. I wish he may succeed. That he may recover after his sickness could be the better preparation to make his family comfortable. Went to Miller's & then Headquarters to obtain permit for Capt. M. to go home to Mobile. Failure for want of power to give it, wrote to Genl. C. who, it seems alone has authority for the permit. Attended a meeting of the officers of the Army & Navy at Liberty Hall, here for the purpose of testifying their sorrow for the death of their common man in chief and attempting the assassination of Gen.

Seward, General Grant, Banks make a part of his speech, found him speaking when I went in - he is a fair speaker, nothing more, and I thought the effort not at all commensurate with the importance of the occasion, and the abundant materials it furnished. A preamble and series of Resolutions were adopted strongly condemnatory of the assassination, pledging their continued service till the Rebellion shall be crushed & the flag restored over all the territory. Genl. Beayman made a short speech, would judge it had been previously prepared, from the manner of delivery, I could not hear him very distinctly, but a feeble voice. Think these remarks pretty good and sentiment patriotic. All agree to attend church on Sabbath next in a body, & adjourned.

157 Saturday, April 22nd, 1865.

This has been a day marked by demonstrations of sorrow greater far than I ever witnessed, beyond any thing of the kind I doubt not that ever occurred in this City for and near. Throughout the City in every direction, the buildings, public and private, are a scene in mourning, and all most every one, citizen and soldier wears some badge of mourning. It is not that Abraham Lincoln is dead, that event would have brought scenes and sorrows to the hearts of many. But it is that he, the President of the U. S. has been assassinated, thus bringing upon the country the doubly calamity of robbing the country of his valuable services, as this critical conjunction and inflicting on the Nation a deep disgrace.

Assassination is so much out of the order of offenses usual among Americans, and so justly abhorrent to this sense of honor, that it is difficult to make it more so by the addition of words of approbation or condemnation. When perpetrated on the highest public official the crime becomes one so detestible and abhorrent, that the mind seems benumbed, and reels under the enormity of the crime. All the viciousness of the sin crowds bewilderingly upon the mind, and words are impotent to give utterance to feelings that oppress the senses. The precedent, too, in a republic where the popular voice that selects, should, for the time, consecrate and render inviolate, for the officer, may well awaken painful apprehension for the future of our institutions. There was

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An immense concourse of people, white, gray, yellow, black and all imaginable colors, mixed in together, assembled in Lee Square, to testify their participation in the sorrow that this event brought to the public heart. A large number were made by Genl. Harburt & Banks. All the fire companies, procession of negroes and others, with music and banners, were marched in. The assembly must have numbered five fifty thousand.

Sunday, April 23rd.

Attendance service at Christ Church, Army and Navy officers attended in a body. Discouraged by Thruwell. I did not strike me as able, but temporary and deeply moral. His philosophy, so far as ascribing the crime to the annihilation of the times, is criticized by some.

Monday, April 24th, 1863.

At half past twelve Mr. The Public Room Webb, passed the city en route for the Gulf. Her appearance was sudden, to the people totally unexpected. Tho. The authorities seemed to have had some hours notice of her coming. Nevertheless not more than a dozen shots were fired at her by the navy, none doing any damage, and as she went at the rate, it is said of 25 miles to the hour. The telegraph wires are cut below so that the boats & forts can not be notified, showing concert on the part of rebels here, and it is likely she may make good her escape. This is one of the most daring feats of the war. If successful it will be one of the most remarkable on record. The rumor tonight she has been sent by The man of War, Richmond Abbott.

105
 Tuesday, April 25th 1865 -
 What was a rumor last night,
 is confirmed this morning to be true.
 The Rebel Boat, Hobbs, being head-
 ed, or supposed she was, by the men
 of war, Richardson was run
 on the bank of the river, fired
 and abandoned. She was
 burned with whatever cargo was
 on board. Two prisoners were
 captured. The others made off
 into the woods. To-day some
 fourteen others have been
 brought in. It is reported to-
 night that Genl. Kirby Smith
 has agreed to surrender the
 army of the Trans-Miss. to Genl.
 Pope on the same terms that
 Genl. Lee did to Genl. Grant.
 Hope it may prove true, but
 I very much doubt it. And yet
 it might be better for the future
 peace of Texas for a Federal
 force to go there first.

Wednesday, April 26th, 1865 -
 Nothing of special in-
 terest has transpired to-day, no
 news from the seats of war. There
 is a rumor in circulation that
 Genl. E. Kirby Smith is dead, died
 after five days illness. I do not
 know how the report comes, and
 can not judge of its reliability.
 Should it prove true I would
 regard it a misfortune for
 the people of Texas particu-
 larly, as they would become
 subject to the authority of
 Genl. McJannet of whom I
 have not a favorable opin-
 ion either morally or in-
 tellectually.

Thursday, April 27th.
 Another weary day has come
 on gone without any note-
 worthy incidents transpiring.
 Have spent most of the day
 sewing. I fear to little purpose.

107 Friday April 28th 1865
 We have had a very pleasant
 bright day a little cool for this
 climate. Spent last evening
 with Dr. Ayson talked a good
 deal on the future of the
 South. He is probably less hope-
 ful than I would the early
 future men more invit-
 ing to me. If good men
 could be induced to step
 forward at once and take
 control much might
 be effected to resuscitate
 the prostrate condition
 of the country. It might
 be accomplished by tele-
 graph that Gen. Sherman
 & Johnston have agreed
 on terms for the surrender
 of all the Confederate arm-
 ies. The statement is vague
 and confusing but suf-
 ficient appears to show

The terms are favorable to the
 South compared with the
 disposition manifested at
 Washington. And it is stated
 the terms are not approved
 by the authorities at that place.
 But it is my opinion that any
 thing done by Sherman will
 have been sanctioned by
 Gen. Grant and it may be
 a little too hazardous to
 oppose them both. While this
 settlement may be more
 favorable to the Rebel than is
 altogether just to the loyal
 men of the South. I don't
 wish it may prove true one
 who proposes to be advised to
 me that the two will move
 towards Texas next week.
 in three different columns
 one by Red River one by Brazos
 and one by way of the Gulf.
 We shall soon see if this betwixt

169 Saturday April 29, 1865.
 The reported terms of settlement between Genl. Sherman and Johnston have been much discussed on the streets, many opposing with warmth & some with bitterness. Among the latter several from Texas of these Genl. St. took a leading part. His leading point of objection was the favorable political and official position it placed the Rebels, whereby they would be able to control and vote the officers. This thing of office seems never last sight of, but comes into the consideration of every question with many of our refugees. In fact it would seem most of them have some office in view to which they seem to feel

particularly entitled to as a reward for their loyalty and as a remuneration for wrongs they have suffered because of their political opinions. Nothing will satisfy such short of disfranchising the rebels & rendering them ineligible to any office, and some go so far as to insist that their property ought to be taken away to assist in paying the expenses of the war. This was urged to-day by Genl. St. I think he was annoyed at my opposition to every thing of the kind and advocacy of a general amnesty and free pardon to all. Had a good long interview with Governor W. manifests great friendship and readiness to serve me. He is a ~~shrewd~~ man, but, but!!

/// Sunday, April 30th, 1865
 How many more sabbaths
 am I doomed to spend in this
 city, which is becoming almost
 unbearable! The time has
 been spent much as usual
 of Sunday, went to the Epis-
 copal Church, heard a very
 uninteresting sermon, &
 have passed most of the re-
 mainder of the day in my
 room, reading and talking
 to friends. It is reported the
 steamer, Sultan, blew
 up, a few days since, at
 short distance above New-
 Orleans, with near two tho-
 sand people on board,
 and some two hundred &
 fifty were saved. Most of
 the persons on board were
 Federal prisoners on their
 way to be exchanged, & go to see
 their friends, horrible fate.

Monday, May 1st, 1865.
 This has been a bright,
 sunny day, propitious for the
 festive celebrations usual and
 appropriate to the floral queen.
 Nothing of special importance
 has transpired, no additional
 news from the armies.

Tuesday, May 2d.
 Capt. T. came to me today and said
 he knew of a coal-bore and petro-
 lium in the N. W. part of this
 State that was on vacant land,
 that he thought might be of
 great value and that I could
 become a party of interest with
 him for a company, &c and
 he thought there was a great
 deal of money to be had out
 of it. I hardly understand this
 there is no sufficient reason
 for this partiality towards me. It
 is true I offered to assist him to
 office and may have to come

extent, but that was very trifling, and passed. have treated him civilly, different from some as he has been in the rebel service, but has for some time been in the Union lines, and seems loyal. Gov. H. dined with me to-day spent an hour or so pleasantly and I hope profitably with him. He is full of desire to make money and is ready for any speculation that promises golden returns.

Wednesday, May 3rd.

Commenced by attempting to send one of Dr. P.'s bad traders for mules, in which he got 3 out of 4. Disease mules put on him, did not look at them, took a horse-trader's word and guaranty, succeeded partially in making what had been done amiss. Put by

by procurement of Mr. L. Col. Moore, who commanded the 2nd Tex. Rifle Regt. He was a captain and was chiefly shot, has lost all. I suspect and now at the age of 30 years, with a family, has to commence life anew, and under many disadvantages. I could not repress a strong feeling of sympathy for him, he seems an amiable, correct-minded man, and such is his character.

Thursday, May 4th.

News of Johnston's surrender on same terms that Lee was confirmed. Booth capture and death confirmed. Reduction of the Army to as much as 50,000 men reported, hope it is true, and that the reduction will go on as fast as public safety will permit.

115- Friday, May 5th 1865
Mr. J. H. Swenson returned
last night from Shreveport.
It seems he had gone there un-
der an order from Gen. Smith
amounting to an invitation,
but by the procurement no
doubt of Thos. F. McKinney to
enable him to get out Cotton
Wk. had left before I reached
there and I was not permitted
to land, but restrained on
the flag of truce boat, visit-
ing a prisoner. Genl. S. and
all his officers desiring to
see him. Mr. West to whom
Judge DuVal and myself
had written a letter in the
most conciliatory tone, ex-
pressive of desire for peace
without an invasion of Tex-
as and inviting his coopera-
tion, expressed high im-
pression at the overture and

disavowed any such senti-
ments as the letter seemed to
anticipate he might entertain
being ready to prolong the war to
the last and at all hazards. Very
well Mr. W. and Genl. Co. adjourn
if you will have it so you will
have no just ground to complain
if the consequences should
be worse for you. I predict that
the next offer of settlement
will come from your side.
Mr. S. informs me that Hervey
states that in no event could
I ever live in Texas again.
Well I would like them and
some will live there for life
tolerant to him and con-
federates than I might be.
It may be a question if he
will be permitted to stay him-
self. Especially if it should be
generally known that he saved
Abraham Lincoln on Booth, the assass-
in.

117 Saturday May 6th 1865.

Received Office an-
nouncement of the sur-
render of Genl. Taylor, en-
bracing all Rebel troops in
Ala, Miss, and E. La, to Genl.
Canby, on same terms that
Lee surrendered to Grant.

This evening the overcast of
the Miss. river, called on
Mrs. C. to congratulate her on
the triumph of her hus-
band. Called at H. D. L. with
Genl. H. introduced him
& saw official dispatches.
He seemed disposed to talk
and alluded to representa-
tions of some who had
been trying to impress
him with the belief that
I despise suppressing
him, called his names &
disclaimed his belief, but
why allude to it so often.

Sunday May 7th 1865.

Attended church as usual
and have spent most of the
remainder of the day in
my room, placing news
papers, & in general for
news of importance from
any quarter. Genl. H. called
on me and spent an hour
or two socially. As variable, the

shade

By the light flickering aspen made,
Monday, May 8th, 1865

By invitation called on
Genl. Herbut, to give him what
information I might pertain-
ing to Texas, he having been di-
rected, he said to obtain such
facts as might be of service in
military operations there had a
long conversation with him on
the subject for which he said I paid
pretty well as to the plan that would
be best, but he thought, or seemed

117 To, that there would be a
departure by the controlling
authority, in preparing a col-
umn up the river by way of
Harrisport into Texas. His
understanding is that there
will be three columns enter the
country, i.e. by Red river to
Houston by way of the Gulf,
probably Brazos river, and a
cavalry force to land farther
west, at Brownsville or Cor-
pus Christi. I have done
but little the remainder of
the day, except to entertain
various persons, very much
like myself, having but little
to do, but anxious to find out
what is to be done promiss-
ing a return home. This I
now feel certain will be com-
menced soon. Though weeks
may yet elapse before I see
clear wife and son. God protect
them!

Thursday, May 9th, 1865
The only note worthy e-
vent of today is the departure
of Genl. H. for Washington City to
have, he says, a conference with
Pres. Johnson on the affairs of
Texas. He did one the morning
of a long interview resulting
in requesting the loan of
100,000 being a little restricted
in funds. I regreted not being
able to accompany him.
Wednesday, May 10th
It is stated that Genl. Pick-
ens & staff arrived today
from Mobile. Many other
 Rebel prisoners are ar-
riving in the City some
look Stanley some cheerful,
but I have seen none
who exhibit any partic-
ular bitterness. I under-
stand, though, there are
many among them.

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 Thursday, May 11th 1865.
 Genl Milroy of the Rebel Army
 who is a brother of Hon. J. A.
 Milroy died, died on and
 spent an hour or so with me.
 He was of Genl Lee's Army &
 is here on parole, trying to
 get into Texas. He expressed
 himself opposed to further
 fighting and felt confi-
 dent Genl Smith will not
 fight in Texas.

Friday, May 12th.
 Genl Canby return-
 ed from Mobile to day, have
 not seen him, will try to
 do so to-morrow. No news
 of any importance from
 any quarter, Sunday
 no more in circulation.
 The most important of it
 Davis has ordered the Miss. River
 that an expedition will
 start to Texas soon &c &c.

Saturday, May 13th 1865
 Called on Genl. Canby,
 seemed care worn and trou-
 ble, or rather looked so, his
 manner and conversation
 were pleasant, said under
 orders from the War Depart-
 ment that all recruiting
 had to be stopped, that for
 service in Texas as well.
 This seems to me particu-
 larly unfortunate for the
 loyal people of Texas, but
 it can not be helped and
 they must take care of them-
 selves as best they can. It may
 result in much violence
 and lawlessness. Have spent
 pretty much the remain-
 der of the day in my room
 feeling too gloomy to care
 to see anyone for the fu-
 ture &c &c looks most
 gloomy & forbidding

121 Sunday May 14th, 1865
 I have felt badly all day,
 not sick but depressed &
 spiritless, as if something
 some great evil, have been
 in my room nearly all
 day, reading "Tom Jones"
 one of Fielding's novels. His
 delineations of character
 is good and observations
 on human nature show
 great acuteness of under-
 standing. Met at dinner
 W. H. Sellers formerly of House.
 Tom, I say, has been a fool in
 the Rebel service, did not
 meet my salvation in
 any spirit of cordiality &
 shown evident disincli-
 nation to social conver-
 sation. Regret this bitter-
 ness of feeling and fear it
 presages evil for the future
 & may show my opinion that

the better plan would be
 to treat the Rebels, now they are
 defeated, with leniency, even
 with magnanimity to be ex-
 someone. If such is the spir-
 it that is to govern them they
 must be treated differently,
 i.e. be made to feel that they
 are traitors and that treason
 is a great crime.

Monday May 15th.
 I have spent most of this
 day reading Fielding's
 "Tom Jones". Came out to
 Ayson & family house
 first talk politics for
 an hour or more, he is
 more gloomy than I of
 the future. Thinks there
 is a strong probability of
 Grant becoming military
 ruler of the country as the
 leader of the Radical Re-
 publican party. No danger

123 ¹⁷ Tuesday May 16, 1865.
Besides attending to
to some unimportant
missions for Rebels seek-
ing to get back to Texas among
them Mrs. Withers of San
Antonio. I have spent
the day on Tom Jones, and
conversation principally
with the Rebels, find some
of them free of bitter-
ness towards the U.S. and
are now adverse to it.

Wednesday May 17th.

The news is just announced
that President Davis and
his cabinet, except Brack-
enridge, have been cap-
tured in Georgia and that
Davis has been sent on
to Washington City. Also
that Vice Pres. Stephens
was arrested. Brackenridge
is said to have fled.

Through the northern part
of Georgia in direction of
Kentucky. There is great re-
joicing over this news; but
I doubt if it would not have
been better for the country if
Davis had succeeded in mak-
ing his escape to some foreign
land. This will be material
to keep up the already greatly
intensified excitement of
the public mind, result in
the execution, most likely, of
Davis as one of the leaders of
the rebellion, and the pres-
ent over established it
may be difficult to stop
within due bounds. This
will have two effects, on the
minds of the secessionists,
great bitterness and a strong
sympathy in the mind of
the conservative men of the
North for those prosecuted.

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 opposition to this and
 other ultra measures of
 the radical party will
 build up an opposition
 party that will likely obtain
 the ascendancy. This might
 justify a feeling of gratifi-
 cation at the result as af-
 fecting the public interest
 but for ~~the~~ the belief that the
 same result would be ac-
 complished by granting
 the public mind, so that
 men's reason could again
 be appealed to, and without
 the hurtful consequences
 of embittering the feel-
 ings of many of the South
 under the apprehension
 that the desire of many is
 not to restore the Union,
 but to subjugate the South,
 by which many will be
 driven from the country.

and others refuse to partici-
 pate in the political affairs,
 so that the traitors and wile
 demagogues will obtain con-
 trol and entail on the country
 innumerable ills. I attend-
 ed a public meeting at Le-
 Fayette Square to night, gotten
 up by the Free State Party - as
 they style themselves - for the
 party purpose of indoctrina-
 ting the "people" with the idea
 conferring on negroes the fran-
 chise of voting. The number
 of white men present ~~was~~ ^{small} ~~most~~
 the negroes, of all ages, nume-
 rous, and they seemed influen-
 ced with "patriotic ardor." But
 on the whole I had the grati-
 fication of seeing that
 the great demonstration
 was a failure. Though, I
 doubt not it will be very
 differently represented.

127 Thursday May 18th, 1865-
No event of special im-
portance has transpired to-
day.

Friday, May 19th.

I have given most
of this day to assisting parol-
ee prisoners off to their homes
in Texas, especially Mrs With-
ers, wife of Confederate
Col. Withers, she is a culti-
vated lady-like person
seemingly grateful for my
attention, to which Maj. G.
Sears and W. Colville, but
as a general thing no at-
tention has much in-
fluence on the bitter
hate Rebels have for all
Union men, and I be-
lieve this feeling is more
intense towards men of
the South than those
from the North. If this

spirit is continued it will
result in one or the other class
being driven from the country
with all the sad consequences
that legitimately belong to such
strifes. I have just received
a letter from Capt. Speer in-
forming me of a most disas-
trous encounter between the
Rebels and Federal forces a few
miles from Buzo, Santiago,
in which 50 men from his
Company were engaged and
the majority of them killed.
Among them both my neph-
ews, William & James. It does
not seem certain that James
was, as one statement is he
was wounded. This is hor-
rible and seems to have
been the result of the most
culpable mismanagement
by the Col. in command. These
were excellent young men

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and it pains me deeply to hear they have been butchered in this reckless manner and may have been with others, then companions, brutally murdered after overpowered by numbers. Surely a day of reckoning will come with a just retribution. This is one of the sorest affliction I have realised to myself in civilisation. I have raised them both and they were dear almost as sons to me, and bore for me the greatest affliction. But God will be done.

Saturday, May 20th.
This morning received two other letters from Beza Island, one from Capt. Fisk the other from Mr. Peyton Smith, giving me the gratifying intelligence that both my

Nephews James and John were alive but prisoners held by the Rebels as such. It seems from other sources that James is wounded in the leg but probably not seriously. This is so much better than what I was led to believe last night that my gratification hardly leaves me feeling regret for their capture. Nothing further is said about poor Horne and I much fear he is killed. The news from Kirby Smith induces me to think he will not fight, but may delay surrendering till the Federals force enter the country and as far as they penetrate it bring the free disaster of an invasion. The Mo. Officers demand protection for themselves before they will surrender.

131 Sunday, May 21st, 1865.
 It is very warm to-day, and
 I have been kept in my room
 nearly all day by one or another,
 or, principally, by General
 Brown, other, Judge Duval,
 to send me a letter he received
 yesterday from Col. T. who
 writes from New York and
 inst. manifesting anxiety to
 get to S. Carolina, asking
 very pertinent questions
 about morals, economy, &c.
 This satisfied me there is
 to be no fighting in Texas &
 that when Kirby Smith
 surrenders there is no chance
 to get out more cotton he
 will surrender on the
 same terms that have
 been accorded to others.
 It may admit of question
 whether this will be for the
 future peace of Texas.

Monday, May 22nd.
 I have had no little trouble
 to-day in obtaining a pass for
 a Mrs. Palan, who has been a
 patient in the hospital at Rich-
 mond Va. It seems she has been
 here some days, unable to get
 a pass and it seems singular
 that Confederate officers should
 have left her, but as she said
 she had been referred to me
 by Mrs. Witherson on her leaving
 I had to undertake it for her.
 Mr. Swenson gave me a letter
 to read he had just received
 from his wife. It was some
 consolation to see this, as it
 spoke of no disaster at
 home, but not to compare
 to what one from my own
 dear wife would give me.
 Also found inclosure West's
 letter of explanation or rather
 a retraction of one he wrote

133. Poor West. he had sufficient foresight to see the inevitable speedy doom of the Confederacy, but not moral courage enough to take advantage of it or rather to keep it after obtaining, but has yielded all to out cry of demagogues.

Tuesday, May 23rd.

I have been endeavoring to day to make such an arrangement as would secure to me an interest in a contract to supply the General in Texas with beef. Think I may succeed with and through Col. Granger of Ky. - brother of the General. Aim to look further into the matter in the morning. I gained some insight into government contracts.

Wednesday, May 24, 1865.

Rose on the enterprise of making arrangements to deal in beef, had a long conversation with Col. B. and Dr. Ayres on the subject generally. Called to see Col. B. Smith, learned but little from him. It is excessively warm today.

Thursday, May 25th.

Devoted most of the day to conferences on the beef enterprise. Come to an agreement with Col. B. to enter generally into the business of shipping beef from Texas to this and other markets and to furnish same to Government. Rebel General Price and Buckner arrived here today. To stipulate, it is said, terms of surrender for the Rebel Army of the Trans

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Mississippi Department,
Genl. Canby has come
over from Mobile to meet
them, nothing has yet
transpired of what has
been agreed on, if any
agreement has been ar-
rived at. There seems no
doubt but the surren-
der will be made, which,
irrespective of the terms,
is of greatest importance
to Texas, and is most
gratifying to me.

~~Friday~~ May 26th.

I drew up and submitted
an article of co-partner-
ship to Col. B. for general
business in purchasing
and selling beef in Texas,
doubt if anything comes
of it, the difficulty is to get
money sufficient to carry
on the business on a suffi-

sufficiently large scale to make
it certainly profitable. The re-
mor is to fight that Genl. Price
and Buckner have come to an
agreement with Genl. Canby
on terms of surrendering the
Trans. Mississippi Department,
except as to the cotton alleged
to belong to the Confederate Govt.
in that Department. The par-
ticular point of difference
on this subject is not stated,
It is wrong for the U.S. to in-
sist on the cotton when it has
not been actually delivered
to the Rebel authorities by
the people, when it has there
seems to be no other owner
for it. But this article has
great attractions for both
sides and will be con-
tinue for with most ac-
ute diplomacy on both
sides, to prove less than expected.

137 Saturday May 27, 1865

As I expected the beef
enterprise failed for want
of money, Col. B. not finding
himself able within him-
self he came to raise there-
quisite amount, and to take
in another party to do so, would
reduce his interest so as to
make it too small to merit
his attention, Well this may
prove to have been fortunate
after all. Terms of surren-
dering the Rebel troops of the
Texas Inf. Dept. were agreed
to and signed to day. They are
substantially the same as
those allowed Genl Taylor.
I regard this a most fortu-
nate termination of the
war in Texas as it will save
the people from the disas-
ters of an invasion. It is
particularly gratifying to

to me, as it promises a speedy
return to my family and to
submit longer to this horrible
separation I am well nigh
unable, and would rather
take the risk incident to the
spirit of Braxton and butch-
ery the secessionists will
take home with them with-
out being whipped in actual
battle than endure it longer.

Sunday, May 28th.
Attended service at the
Episcopal church, a very
small congregation and
a poor sermon. Dined by in-
vitation with Dr. Lyson.
Went to see Dr. Pickles point
him bad off with inflam-
matory rheumatism. Super-
cilious, it is thought, by
excessive drinking. He is
a very good man and not
narcotized and addicted to strong

139 drink to sleep. But he
has suffered very much
in mind from the con-
dition of the country. The
uncertainty as to the safety
of his family and his separa-
tion from them. It is an
apt illustration of how dan-
gerous it is to the habits of
most men to be separated
from home and family,
under circumstances of
a distressing character, if
not under any. It requires
unusual firmness to re-
sist temptations that prom-
ise even temporary relief
to a mind suffering under
distress of anxiety and sus-
pense it seems for men
so when absent from the in-
fluences of home and family.
But few of the refugees have
done so with entire success.

Monday, May 29th, 1865
I was surprised to-day by
the unannounced enter-
ance in my room of J. S. Bal-
lenger Esq of Galveston, who, af-
ter mutually cordial greetings
informed me he and Col. Ashbel
Smith had been sent by the Gov.
of Texas & Gen. Magruder re-
spectively as commissioners
to arrange terms of surren-
dering the Confederate Army
in Texas and to get some under-
standing on the move to be
pursued by the people in re-
organizing civil government
and resume the relations of
a state in the Union. They
(for we soon joined Col. Smith)
assuring me that it was the
sincere desire of the people
of Texas to reconstruct the
government and to submit
in good faith to the justice

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jurisdiction of the Free-
State Government. They frankly
admitted that the Army had
in great measure disbanded
and gone home, the sol-
diers in disregard of the
authority of their officers
taking with them their arms
and carrying away all the
public property they could
and wanted, stating as a
justification of the act that
they had been paid nothing
for a long time, that the prop-
erty was public, and they were
entitled to it. It seems they
also appropriated Genl.
Magruder's ambulance, it
is likely though that it was
public property. It is gratify-
ing to learn that private
property was respected.
This state of anarchy strikes
me as not altogether compatible

with the anxiety expressed that
Federal troops should not be
sent to Texas. There is evident
a good deal of selfishness in
this move on the part, especially
of the civil authority. It seems
the state officers are already
parcelled out particularly
the more important ones,
the selections being made
to suit the taste of the seces-
sionists. At their request I
accompanied them to an
interview with Genl. Aubrey,
which was protracted though
not altogether satisfactory on
all points to the Commission-
ers. The Genl. declining to take
any action or even to give an
opinion on civil and polit-
ical subjects, except as to the
rebels who would be requir-
ed to remain in status quo
till the proper civil authority

1129) I cannot take such ac-
tion as the Gov. prescribes.
Col. S. was very loquacious
but not very efficient for an
old diplomat, of which he
made very pointed men-
tion. They suggest the pri-
vacy of going to Washington
City and receive the Genl's
permission to do so.

Wednesday, May 30th,

I spent some time this
morning with Messrs. Smith
& Ballenger, talked much of
Texas matters, assumed by
them of general friendly &
peaceful disposition of
the secessionists towards
Unionists. He & Co. confer
with them on the charac-
ter and form of written
communication they
wish to make to Genl. Canby,
as to get the question of

reorganizing a State Govt. in
Texas before the President for him
to define some more of action,
remadde a part already
written and wrote a part for
them - to be adopted if they like
it. I don't know if they do.

I learned that Genl. Canby is not
but that Genl. Sherman is to have
command in Texas. I regret
this, since I do not know the
latter but am pretty well ac-
quainted with the latter and
regard him a man of ^{former} strict
integrity, excellent capacity,
highly conservative and ridg-
edly just towards the people.

Wednesday May 31st

Have done but little to-day,
called on Mr. C. and on the
Texas Commissioners, went this
evening by request to Dr. H's.
to carry up Mr. B. spent the
evening pleasantly.

145th Sunday, June 1st 1865.
Telegraphic communication
of news to-day
with New York. Met this
evening with St. Col. Ryan
an of Hubbardville Tex.,
informed me he had
over 200 Texans with him
for sale and on their
way home; among them
my nephew, W. W. Peyton.
He exhibits great bitter-
ness of feeling and a de-
termination not to live
under the U. S. Govt. Tho,
met me quite cordially.
Friday June 2nd.

Messrs Smith &
Ruggen proposed that I
go at once to Texas to in-
fluence as far as I may
be able the public mind
to the acceptance of the
change & conciliation of

things and harmonise all
parties to an early establishment
of civil authority. believing
they say, I will have a salutary
influence. At a conjuncture
like this I do not feel any one
has a right to withhold influ-
ence for the common
good and may hasten over
with this view. Genl. Sher-
iden reached here to-day.
Have not met with him
yet. Col. S. thinks to avoid any
suspicion that he is influ-
enced by the expectation of
a pardon or other selfish
motive, that it might be bet-
ter for him to go a few
days in advance of me
that an indiv. I am to
think over his suggestion
and action in the mor-
ning. They both seem to
understand better their position

Saturday, June 3rd, 1865

Called on Genl. Canby
this morning to request
him to give Mr. Ballenger
such a letter to the Pres-
ident as would secure
him and audience &
patient hearing so that
a full understanding
of affairs in Texas could
be conveyed to him. He seem-
ed all together willing to do
so and said it was his
opinion that better so
to Texas, and he would
speak to Genl. Sherman
about my doing so at
once. I have been making
my arrangements as far
as practicable to do so,
and to obtain permission
for Dr. Phillips to accompa-
ny me as he desires much
to do so for business operations.